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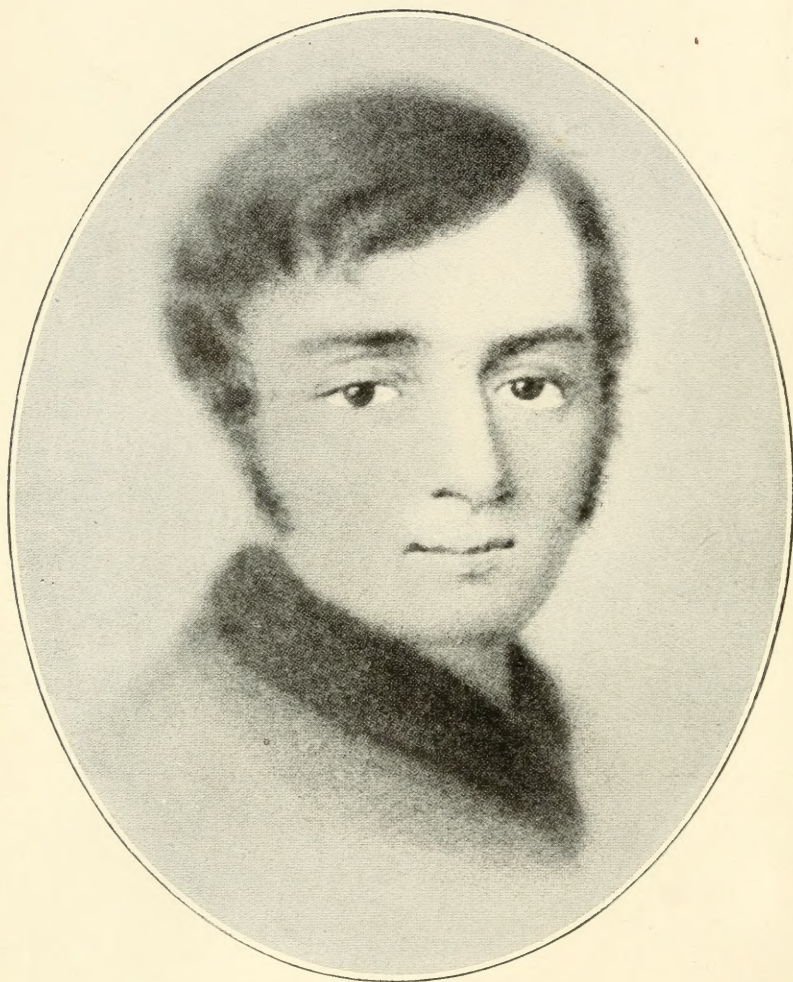






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JOSEPH NICOLAS NICOLLET

Who Explored Southwestern Minnesota in 1838 and Was One of the  
First White Men to Visit Lyon County.

AN  
ILLUSTRATED HISTORY  
OF  
LYON COUNTY  
MINNESOTA

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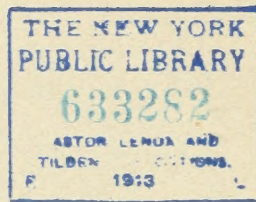
By ARTHUR P. ROSE

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Author of the Histories of  
NOBLES, JACKSON, ROCK AND  
PIPESTONE COUNTIES, ETC.



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## FOREWORD

THE white man's history of Lyon county dates back to no great antiquity, but that will be overcome in the course of time. Of priceless value are local histories of communities of the eastern states written contemporaneous with their early settlement; future generations will place a higher value on this work than the people of the present.

While the history of the county covers only a period of time represented by a span of years accorded a long-lived man, the events which have occurred should be recorded while there are yet living some who took part in the history-making. It is for this purpose that this volume is put forth. It is the only complete history of Lyon county ever published, and the material for its compilation has been secured almost wholly from original sources.

The author has consulted and quoted from the writings of Hon. Warren Upham, secretary of the Minnesota Historical Society, from C. F. Case's History of Lyon County, from the History of the Minnesota Valley, from the publications of the Minnesota Geological Survey, from Minnesota in the Civil and Indian Wars, and from other books of reference. The files of the local newspapers have been of inestimable value in supplying authentic data, especially the files of those pioneer journals, the *Prairie Schooner*, *Marshall Messenger* and *News-Messenger*, kindly loaned by C. C. Whitney, of Marshall. Without them much of historical importance must have remained unrecorded. Scores of pioneer residents have interested themselves in the work to the extent of devoting time to the detailing of early day events.

For the purpose of revising and suggesting improvements Messrs. C. F. Case and H. P. Sanden and Dr. H. M. Workman reviewed the manuscript before it was put to press. Those gentlemen read the historical part of the volume, made a number of corrections, and indorsed the work as an impartial, comprehensive and substantially accurate record of events from the earliest days to the present time.

In the work of gathering the data the author has been ably assisted by Messrs. P. D. Moore, J. B. Nelson, and William Larkin.

Probably no historical work was ever put to press which entirely satisfied its author. There are so many pitfalls in the path of him who seeks to record the events of the past; the human mind is so prone to err in recalling names and dates of a former day; so it happens that the writer, compiling his story from data of which only a part can be verified, knows that there must be errors, albeit he may have exercised the greatest care. With no apologies, but with this brief explanation and the realization that the work is not perfect, this History of Lyon County is put forth.

ARTHUR P. ROSE.

Marshall, Minnesota, August, 1912.



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HISTORY OF  
LYON COUNTY  
MINNESOTA



## CHAPTER I.

### ABORIGINAL DAYS—1700-1866.

THE white man's history of Lyon county dates back to no great antiquity. Nevertheless, during millions of years many interesting things happened in the county—events which were not witnessed by mortal eye, events which the most vivid imagination cannot conceive.

From a part of the seething, molten mass that composed the earth during the millions of years about which even the geologists hardly dare venture a guess Lyon county was formed and became a part of the earth's surface in the process of cooling. Thereafter it was successively covered with the waters of the sea, was raised from the depths to a great altitude, and was crushed back by the weight of the vast ice sheets during the Glacial Period.

During those times Lyon county's topographical features were formed, many changes resulting before Nature had them fashioned to her liking. Soil was spread over the surface; ridges and

hills were formed by the action of the ice; depressions were left in which are now lakes; the waters from the melting ice sought avenues of escape and formed rivers and creeks; plant and animal life came into existence.

When Lyon county was first inhabited by the human species is unknown. Even when the North American continent was first peopled archæologists can at best only guess. There has been discovered evidence that man lived upon the continent during the decline and closing days of the Ice Age, some 6000 to 10,000 years ago, and probably had done so for a much longer period.<sup>1</sup>

When civilized man first came to the New World he found it peopled with a savage race which he called Indians. They had no knowledge of their own ancestry nor of any peoples who may have preceded them. Whether or not this race supplanted one of a higher civilization is a question upon which authorities disagree.<sup>2</sup> The only sources

<sup>1</sup>Traces of man's presence during this period have been found in the flood plain of the Mississippi river at Little Falls, Minnesota, and in other parts of the United States. Concerning the original peopling of North America, Warren Upham, A. M., D. Sc., in *Minnesota in Three Centuries*, says:

"The original peopling of America appears to have taken place far longer ago by migration from North-eastern Asia during the early Quaternary or Ozarkian Epoch of general uplift of northern regions, which immediately preceded the Ice Age, and which continued through the early and probably the greater part of that age. Then land undoubtedly extended across the area of Behring sea.

"During Ozarkian time and the long early part of the Glacial Period, wandering tribes, migrating for better food supplies or to escape from enemies, could

have crossed on land from Asia to Alaska and could have advanced south to Patagonia and Tierra del Fuego, occupying all the ground (excepting the ice-covered area) that is now, or was in pre-Columbian times, the home of the American race. It is not improbable, too, that another line of very ancient migration, in the same early Pleistocene or Quaternary time, passed from Western Europe by the Faroe islands, Iceland and Greenland, to our continent."

<sup>2</sup>"It was formerly thought by many archæologists, twenty-five to fifty years ago, that the mounds of the Ohio and Mississippi valleys were built by a prehistoric people, distinct from the Indians and further advanced in agriculture and the arts of civilization. To that ancient people the name of Mound Builders was given, and it was supposed that they were driven southward

of information concerning the early inhabitants are the implements of warfare and domestic use they made, found in burial places and elsewhere in the land. The Mississippi valley is prolific in mounds—the burial places of these ancient peoples,—many having been found and excavated in Minnesota.

While we have little knowledge of the very early peoples who inhabited Minnesota, from the middle of the seventeenth century, when white men first penetrated to the Northwest, we can trace the history of the Indian tribes more or less accurately. At the coming of white men nearly the whole state was occupied by the Dakota, or Sioux, Indians.<sup>3</sup> The only exception was in the extreme northern part, where the Kilistino (or Crees) and the Monsoni of the Algonquin tribes had their habitat. The Sioux, with whom alone Lyon county has to do, had their favorite hunting grounds on the prairies, and although they were usually domiciled in a portion of the timbered lands bordering the prairies they were strictly Indians of the prairie.

About the middle of the eighteenth century the aggressive Ojibways, or Chippewas, made successful war on the

Sioux and Crees, driving the Sioux to the south and the Crees to the north. Thenceforth until the white man supplanted the red these two tribes occupied all the area of Minnesota, the Ojibways holding the northeastern wooded half and the Sioux its prairie half on the southwest.

The Sioux nation was divided into several different tribes, each of which laid claim to certain tracts. The southwestern part of Minnesota, including the present county of Lyon, was claimed by the Sissiton tribe. The location of the several bands inhabiting Southern Minnesota in 1834 has been told by the missionary, S. W. Pond, who came to Minnesota that year. He has written:

"The villages of the M'dewakantonwan were on the Minnesota and Mississippi rivers, extending from Winona to Shakopee. Most of the Indians living on the Minnesota river above Shakopee were Warpetonwan. At Big Stone lake there were both Warpetonwan and Sissitonwan, and at Lake Traverse Ihanktonwan [Yankton], Sissitonwan and Warpetonwan. Part of the Warpekute lived on Cannon river and part at Traverse des Sioux. There were

into Mexico by incursions of the Indian tribes that were found in our country at the first coming of white men. This view, however, has been generally given up. The researches of Powell and other specialists, including Winchell and Brower in Minnesota, have well referred the building of the mounds to the ancestors of the present Indians."—Warren Upham in *Minnesota in Three Centuries*.

<sup>3</sup>The Dakotan stock embraced many tribes and according to Indian tradition came from the Atlantic seaboard. Their original homes, according to the best authorities, were in the Carolinas, Virginia, and possibly portions of the Gulf coast. Into that region formerly the buffalo ranged. It is suggested that the quest for food probably led the Dakotas to follow the movements of that animal and thus in time to possess the country west of the Mississippi river.

The migration, which occurred several centuries before the discovery of America, covered a great length of time and was by way of the Ohio valley, which was the home of the Dakotas at one time. Some authorities assert that the Dakotan stock built at least a part of the celebrated mounds of the Ohio valley, as well as those of Eastern Tennessee and West Virginia.

The most important branches of the Dakotan stock that migrated to the West are given as follows (abridged) in *The Aborigines of Minnesota*, published by the Minnesota Historical Society in 1911:

"Hidatsa. The Minitari or Gros Ventres of the Missouri valley. Probably the first of the expelled mound builders to reach Minnesota.

"Crows, or Absaruka, or Upsarata. Still further up the Missouri river.

"Mandan. On the Missouri river.

"Sioux, or Dakota. Embraced Santee (Issanti), Sissiton, Wahpeton, Yankton, Yanktonai, Teton (embracing Brule, Sans Arcs, Blackfeet, Minneconjou, Two Kettles, the Ogallala and the Hunkpapa) and the Assiniboin, or Stone Sioux.

"Winnebago. Originally in Central Wisconsin and Northwestern Illinois and later in Northern Minnesota and Iowa.

"Omaha (Maha) and their kindred, Ponca, Osage, Kwapa and Kansa. Formerly of the Ohio and Wabash rivers. Later in Missouri, Kansas and Nebraska, sometimes extending their domains temporarily to Minnesota and the Black Hills.

"Iowa (Dusty Heads). Included also the Otoe and the Missouri. Along the Mississippi river north of the Missouri, along the Des Moines river, and temporarily in Minnesota."

The word Dakota, by which the Indians preferred to be designated, signifies allies, or joined together in friendly compact. But from the earliest days the nation has been more commonly referred to as Sioux, a word of Ojibway origin and bestowed by the French voyageurs. For centuries the Ojibways of the Lake Superior country waged war against the Dakotas and whenever they spoke of the latter they called them *Nadowaysioux*, which signifies enemies. The Frenchmen nicknamed the Dakotas Sioux, a contraction of the Ojibway word.

frequent intermarriages between these divisions of the Dakotas, and they were more or less intermingled at all their villages. Though the manners, language and dress of the different divisions were not all precisely alike, they were essentially one people."

As has been mentioned before, the southwestern part of Minnesota was the country of the Sisseton branch of the Sioux nation from the time white men first visited it. The timber land along the Redwood river in Lyon county was a paradise for these Indians of the prairie and some of the band had their homes there; others frequented it on trapping and hunting expeditions and to gather the syrup from the maple trees.

Parker I. Pierce, who passed through Lyon county in the early sixties and was quite well informed on Indian affairs, has given an interesting account of Indian life in Lyon county before the coming of white settlers. In the Lyon County Reporter of December 26, 1896, he wrote:

At Lynd there were about 1500 acres of timber (most of it having later been cut by the settlers), consisting of oak, bass and sugar maple. This timber was paradise for the Indians, furnishing shelter and fuel for winter and a feeding ground for their ponies. In the summer they would hunt and kill buffalo and dry the meat for winter. After the cold weather set in they devoted their time to trapping the fur-bearing animals, such as otter, mink and muskrats, which were abundant. In every slough one could count from three to forty houses or dens, which were made of rushes and varied in height. When there was to be high water in the spring they were built high, and when low water they were built low. That sign hardly ever failed. Now the rats have disappeared. The otter were not very plentiful, as the Indians kept them well trapped out. Their skins brought a fair price, probably two quarts of brown sugar. Wolves were very plentiful before the white trapper came among them. The Indian was so superstitious that he would not kill any; he said they were his Great Father's dogs. The same with a snake.

As I said before, there were plenty of sugar maples and the Indian women made hundreds of pounds of sugar. In the spring the surplus would go to the Indian trader and shortly would be traded back to them for furs and robes.

Each band of Indians had their allotment of trees. The troughs that were made to catch the sap remained under the trees until the following spring; then the same ones would go back to their camping ground.

The Indians were happy and rich with ponies. Their burial places were the oaks that stood on the bluffs. The ones that died were wrapped in a blanket and put in the fork of a tree and left there until they crumbled to dust. The older settlers can recollect seeing the burial places in Lyons township, adjoining the town of Lynd.

There is a mound the settlers call the knob, which is no doubt an ancient burial place. This knob looks as though the dirt had been carried and laid as systematically as for some observatory or look-out place; for one can stand there and see for miles in each direction. It once faced a lovely sheet of water which is now dry and is one of the best stock farms in the Northwest, owned and occupied by Mr. Rulifson and sons. This mound has been nearly ruined by wolf hunters. There have been human bones found when digging for wolves. Years ago there was a hard-beaten trail leading to this mound from the timber, thence toward Wood lake, passing a very high peak where there was a large pile of rocks one could see for miles. No doubt this mound and peak have been used for look-outs, as the enemy, another tribe, was very troublesome.

The history of Lyon county before the white race took possession must be left almost entirely to the imagination; there is little data from which to write it. If inanimate things could speak, what wild tales of Indian adventure could be poured forth! But inanimate things cannot speak and the animate aborigine is a notoriously worthless historian, so a very interesting part of the history of Lyon county must forever remain unrecorded. Only trifling bits of history, intermingled with a plethora of legend, are preserved of the days before the Caucasian race took possession.

Let us, in imagery, take a look at the Lyon county of years gone by, when it was in primeval state, when it was as Nature had formed it. Its topography was practically the same as we find it today. There were the same broad, rolling prairies, stretching as far as the eye might reach, presenting in summer a perfect paradise of verdure, with its

variegated hues of flowers and vegetation; in winter a dreary and snow-mantled desert. The rivers and creeks flowed in the same courses as now; the lakes occupied the same banks as at the present day. But what a contrast!

Wild beasts and birds and wilder red men then reigned supreme. Vast herds of bison, elk and deer roamed the open prairies and reared their young in the more sheltered places along the streams. With that wonderful appreciation of the beautiful which Nature has made an instinct in the savage, the untutored Sioux selected the country as his hunting ground and roamed it at will. Such was the Lyon county before the march of civilization brought the white man to supplant the red.

Before introducing the first white man who set foot on the soil of Lyon county, let us review briefly the explorations that had been made in other parts of Minnesota.

White men first penetrated the Northwest country to the present state of Minnesota in the middle of the seventeenth century (1655-56). In 1683 the first map on which physical features of Minnesota were pictured was published in connection with Father Hennepin's writings. The map is very vague and demonstrates that little was known of the Northwest country. Five years later, in 1688, J. B. Franquelin, a Canadian-French geographer, drafted for King Louis XVI. of France a more detailed map of North America, making use of information gathered by Joliet and Marquette, La Salle, Hennepin, DuLuth and others. Some of the principal streams and lakes are marked and more or less accurately located, among others the R. des Moines (Des Moines), which rises not far from our

territory. The data for a greater part of the map were doubtless secured from the Indians.

A few French explorers, named above, had penetrated the present area of Minnesota, but none of them had explored the southwestern portion. The first white man to visit the interior of Southern Minnesota was Le Sueur, who in 1700 ascended the Minnesota river to near the present site of Mankato.

In 1699 Le Sueur received a commission from D'Iberville to visit and examine a copper mine which the former claimed to have learned of in the country of the Iowas.<sup>4</sup> In April, 1700, with a company of about twenty-five persons he set out from the settlement on the lower Mississippi with a single shallop. On the nineteenth of September he reached the mouth of the Minnesota river and on the last day of that month, having reached the Blue Earth river, he built a fort in which he spent the winter. Fort L'Huilier, named for one of the chief collectors of the king of France, was a league up the Blue Earth river. A short distance from the fort the Frenchmen gathered large quantities of blue or green earth, which they believed to be copper ore. In the spring of 1701 Le Sueur with a part of his force descended the Mississippi with the "ore," 4000 pounds of which were sent to France. The garrison which had been left at Fort L'Huilier, having received ill treatment at the hands of the Indians and having run short of provisions, in 1703 returned to civilization in charge of Derague.

The data secured by Le Sueur were used in the preparation of a map of the Northwest country by William De L'isle, royal geographer of France, in 1703. Several of the larger and more important

<sup>4</sup>Le Sueur had first visited the upper Mississippi country in 1683 with Perrot, in the interests of trade.

He built a trading post at Isle Pelee, a few miles below Hastings, in 1695.

physical features of Southwestern Minnesota were more or less accurately located. For the first time the Minnesota river appeared upon a map, being labeled R. St. Pierre, or Mini-Sota. The Des Moines river also has a place on the map, being marked Des Moines, or le Moingona R., and its source was definitely located. There is nothing in the writings of Le Sueur, however, to lead to the belief that he extended his exploration to any country except along the Minnesota river and not much farther up that stream than the mouth of the Blue Earth.

During the next sixty-six years after Le Sueur visited the Minnesota river country, no white man was in Southwestern Minnesota, so far as we know. Then, in November, 1766, Jonathan Carver ascended the Minnesota and spent seven months with the Indians at the mouth of the Cottonwood river, in the vicinity of the present city of New Ulm. He remained with the Indians until April, 1767, and learned their language.<sup>5</sup>

<sup>5</sup>Of his trip to this point Carver wrote:

"On the twenty-fifth [of November, 1766] I returned to my canoe, which I had left at the mouth of the river St. Pierre [Minnesota]; and here I parted with regret from my young friend, the prince of the Winnebagoes. The river being clear of ice by reason of its southern situation, I found nothing to obstruct my passage. On the twenty-eighth, being advanced about forty miles, I arrived at a small branch that fell into it from the north; to which, as it had no name that I could distinguish it by, I gave my own, and the reader will find it in the plan of my travels denominated Carver's river. About forty miles higher up I came to the forks of the Verd [Blue Earth] and Red Marble [Watson] rivers, which join at some little distance before they enter the St. Pierre.

"The river St. Pierre at its junction with the Mississippi is about a hundred yards broad and continues that breadth nearly all the way I sailed upon it. It has a great depth of water and in some places runs very swiftly. About fifteen miles from its mouth are some rapids and much higher up are many others.

"I proceeded up this river about 200 miles, to the country of the Nadowessies [Sioux] of the plains, which lies a little above the fork formed by the Verd and Red Marble rivers just mentioned, where a branch from the south [the Cottonwood] nearly joins the Messorie [Missouri] river." [The sources of the Cottonwood river are near those of Rock river, the latter being a tributary of the Missouri.]

"From information received from the Indians Carver made some wonderful deductions as to the physical features of the country. In his narrative of the trip he wrote:

"By the accounts I received from the Indians I have reason to believe that the river St. Pierre [Minnesota] and the Messorie [Missouri], though they enter the Mississippi twelve hundred miles from each other, take their rise in the same neighborhood, and this within the space of a mile. The river St. Pierre's

It is possible that Carver during this time may have visited the country which is now included within the boundaries of Lyon county, for he hunted with the Indians over some of the great plains of Southwestern Minnesota which, "according to their [the Indians'] account, are unbounded and probably terminate on the coast of the Pacific ocean."<sup>6</sup>

Undoubtedly white men, engaged in trade with the natives or trapping and hunting for the fur companies or for themselves, visited that part of Southwestern Minnesota which is now designated Lyon county in the early part of the nineteenth century. But such men left no records of their operations, and our information concerning the exploration of the country is obtained almost wholly from expeditions sent out by the government.

An early visitor to Southwestern Minnesota was Major Stephen H. Long, who conducted a party of exploration, under direction of the secretary of war,

northern branch [that is, the main river] rises from a number of lakes [Big Stone lake] near the Shining Mountains [the Coteau des Prairies] and it is from some of these also that a capital branch [Red River of the North] of the river Bourbon [Nelson river], which runs into Hudson's Bay, has its sources. . . . I have learned that the four most capital rivers of North America, viz., the St. Lawrence, the Mississippi, the River Bourbon [Nelson] and the Oregon [Columbia], or River of the West, have their sources in the same neighborhood. The waters of the three former are within thirty miles of each other; the latter, however, is rather farther west.

"This shows that these parts are the highest lands of North America; and it is an instance not to be paralleled on the other three-quarters of the globe, that four rivers of such magnitude should take their rise together and each, after running separate courses, discharge their waters into different oceans at the distance of 2000 miles from their source."

Of the country through which he traveled Carver wrote:

"The river St. Pierre, which runs through the territory of the Nadowessies flows through a most delightful country, abounding with all the necessities of life that grow spontaneously, and with a little cultivation it might be made to produce even the luxuries of life. Wild rice grows here in great abundance; and every part is filled with trees bending under their loads of fruit, such as plums, grapes and apples; the meadows are covered with hops and many sorts of vegetables; whilst the ground is stored with useful roots, with angelica, spikenard and ground nuts as large as hens' eggs. At a little distance from the sides of the river are eminences from which you have views that cannot be exceeded by even the most beautiful of those I have already described. Amidst these are delightful groves and such amazing quantities of maples that they would produce sugar sufficient for any number of inhabitants."

to the source of the Minnesota river and to Lake Winnipeg in 1823. In the party were several scientific gentlemen from Philadelphia, among them Professor William Keating of the University of Pennsylvania, who was the historian of the party.

It was during the month of July, 1823, that Major Long and party made the trip up the Minnesota river, traveling on the south side of the stream. Professor Keating mentions the Redwood river and states that the red pipestone was said to exist on its banks three days' journey from its mouth. Mention is made of Patterson's rapids, the Grand portage, the Pejehata Zeze Watapan (Yellow Medicine) river, Beaver rivulet (Lac qui Parle river) and other physical features. Interesting observations were recorded respecting the fauna and flora of the prairies.

Another exploration of Southwestern Minnesota was made in the summer of 1835 by G. W. Featherstonhaugh, an English gentleman. He bore the title United States geologist and was commissioned by Colonel J. J. Abert, of the Bureau of Topographical Engineers. Featherstonhaugh proceeded up the Minnesota river for a considerable distance and explored parts of the Coteau des Prairies, which he described at some length. His exact route is not known and it is possible he passed through Lyon county.<sup>7</sup>

A white man first established a home in Lyon county in 1835. He was

<sup>7</sup>From Featherstonhaugh's expedition resulted two works, one entitled "Report of geological reconnaissance made in 1835 from the seat of government by the way of Green Bay and the Wisconsin Territory to the Coteau des Prairies, an elevated ridge dividing the Missouri from the St. Peter's [Minnesota] river," printed by order of the Senate in 1836, and the other "A Canoe Voyage up the Minnaw Sotar," published in London in 1847.

<sup>8</sup>Most of the information concerning the operations of Joseph LaFramboise herein contained was obtained by Doane Robinson, now secretary of the South Dakota Historical Society, in an interview with Joseph LaFramboise, Jr., in 1900. The latter remembered well the time of the family's residence in Lyon county and the visit of George Catlin in 1837.

Joseph LaFramboise, a trader in the employ of the American Fur Company, and his post was in the Lynd woods on the Redwood river. There for a period of two years he lived with his family, engaged in trade with the Indians.

So early as 1826 Joseph LaFramboise was a trader, licensed by the Indian agent at the agency established at the mouth of the Minnesota river. In the late twenties he established a trading post on the headwaters of the Des Moines river, probably in Murray county, where in 1829 a son, Joseph LaFramboise, Jr., was born.<sup>8</sup> In 1834 he moved the post to the "Great Oasis," at about the present location of Lowville, in Murray county, remained there one year, and in 1835 removed the post to the Lynd woods.

For two years LaFramboise and his family were residents of the future Lyon county, he acting as agent for the American Fur Company in bartering with the Indians. In 1837 he moved to the mouth of the Cottonwood river and the next year to a homestead in Ridgely township, Nicollet county, about eleven miles above the present site of New Ulm. LaFramboise died in 1856.

It was in 1837, while LaFramboise was residing in Lyon county, that George Catlin, the famous traveler and Indian delineator, traversed the county on his way to visit the Pipestone quarries.<sup>9</sup> He organized the expedition at the falls of St. Anthony and was accompanied only by Robert Serril

His mother was an Indian woman, the daughter of Walking Day. LaFramboise, Sr., was a much married man. His second and third wives were daughters of Sleepy Eye and his fourth was Jane Dickson, whom he married in 1845 at Traverse des Sioux. That marriage was the first performed in what is now Nicollet county.

<sup>9</sup>George Catlin made the trip from New York City, traveled 2400 miles, and devoted eight months' time, "traveling at considerable expense and for part of the way with much fatigue and exhaustion." He had planned to make the trip when at Fort Snelling in 1835, but learning of the Featherstonhaugh expedition that year to the Coteau des Prairies, he postponed the trip two years.

Wood, "a young gentleman from England of fine taste and education," and an Indian guide, O-kup-kee by name.

This little party traveled horseback and followed the usual route up the Minnesota on the south side. At Traverse des Sioux, near the present site of St. Peter, Mr. Catlin and his companion halted at the cabin of a trader, where they were threatened by a band of savages and warned not to persist in their determination to visit the quarries. They continued on their way, however, crossed to the north side of the river at Traverse des Sioux, proceeded in a westerly direction, and crossed the Minnesota to the south bank near the mouth of the Waraju (Cottonwood), close to the present city of New Ulm.

There Messrs. Catlin and Wood left the river and journeyed "a little north of west" for the Coteau des Prairies. They traveled through the present counties of Brown, Redwood and Lyon and passed several Indian villages, at several of which they were notified that they must go back; but, undaunted, they continued their journey. Catlin states in one place that he traveled one hundred miles or more from the mouth of the Cottonwood, and in another place "for a distance of one hundred and twenty or thirty miles" before reaching the base of the coteau, when he was still "forty or fifty miles from the Pipestone quarries."<sup>10</sup> He declared this part of the journey was over one of the most beautiful prairie countries in the world.<sup>11</sup>

Mr. Catlin came to the trading post of the American Fur Company in charge

of Joseph LaFramboise, whom he referred to as an old friend, at the Lynd woods. From the trading post the intrepid travelers journeyed to the quarries, guided by their Indian. The explorer described the land along the route as a series of swells or terraces, gently rising one above the other. According to his account, there was not a tree or bush to be seen in any direction and the ground was covered with a green turf of grass five or six inches high.

The next white men to penetrate Lyon county were a party of explorers in the government employ, who passed through in the summer of 1838. In the party were six men under command of Joseph Nicolas Nicollet, with John C. Fremont, later nominee of the Republican party for president of the United States, second in command.<sup>12</sup> Among the others were Charles A. Geyer, the botanist of the expedition; J. Eugene Flandin and James Renville.

Nicollet and Fremont traveled from Washington to St. Louis and thence up the Mississippi river to H. H. Sibley's trading post, near the mouth of the Minnesota river. Thence they journeyed over the general route of travel up the south side of the Minnesota river, crossing at Traverse des Sioux. They proceeded west across the "ox-bow," stopping at Big Swan lake in Nicollet county, and crossed the Minnesota again at the mouth of the Cottonwood. They proceeded up the valley of the Cottonwood, on the north side of the river, to a point near the present site of Lambert, and then crossed to the south

<sup>10</sup>Most of Catlin's distances were overestimated. The distance from the mouth of the Cottonwood to the base of the coteau where he came upon it is only about seventy-two miles in a direct line; then he was about thirty-six miles from the quarries.

<sup>11</sup>"This tract of country, as well as that along the St. Peter's [Minnesota] river, is mostly covered with the richest soil and furnishes an abundance of good water, which feeds from a thousand living springs. For many miles we had the coteau in view in the distance before us, which looked like a blue cloud settling down in the horizon, and we were scarcely

sensible of the fact when we had arrived at its base from the graceful and almost imperceptible swells with which it commences its elevation above the country around it."—North American Indians, by George Catlin.

<sup>12</sup>From 1836 to 1843 Nicollet, most of the time assisted by Fremont, prosecuted a geographical survey of the upper Mississippi country. He explored nearly all portions of Minnesota and many other parts of the country theretofore unvisited. His operations in Southwestern Minnesota were quite extensive.

side of the river and struck across country to the west. They passed through the southeast corner of Lyon county, about where the city of Tracy now stands, and passed around the north end of Lake Shetek. Thence they proceeded southwestward, between Bear lakes, to the Pipestone quarries.<sup>13</sup>

After spending three days at the Pipestone quarries, where is now situated the city of Pipestone, the Nicollet party visited and named Lake Benton (for Mr. Fremont's father-in-law, Senator Benton) and then proceeded westward into Dakota, visiting and naming Lakes Preston (for Senator Preston), Poinsett (for J. R. Poinsett, secretary of war), Abert, Thompson, Tetonkoha, Kampeska and Hendricks. Before returning to civilization Nicollet visited Big Stone lake and other places to the north. He returned to the falls of St. Anthony by way of Joseph Renville's camp on the Lac qui Parle.

As a result of Nicollet's exploration several physical features of Lyon county and the immediate vicinity were given names and appeared on a map for the first time, all quite accurately located. Among them are St. Peter or Minisotah river (on which are shown Crooked rapids, Rock Bar rapids and Patterson's rapids), Tehanshayapi or Redwood R., Waraju [Cottonwood] R., Pejuta Zizi R. or Yellow Medicine R., L. Shetek

(designated as the head of the Moin-gonan [Des Moines] river), L. Benton and Red Pipestone Quarry. On his map the country along the Minnesota river is labeled Warpeton country and that further south Sissiton country.

The next recorded visit of white men was in 1844, when an expedition in charge of Captain J. Allen came up the Des Moines river, operating chiefly to chart that and other streams. He passed through Jackson, Cottonwood and Murray counties and came to Lake Shetek, which he decided was the source of the Des Moines river. He gave that body of water the name Lake of the Oaks and described it as remarkable for a singular arrangement of the peninsulas running into it from all sides and for a heavy growth of timber that covered the peninsulas and the borders of the lake.

With Lake Shetek as temporary headquarters, Captain Allen extended his explorations in several directions. He proceeded due north from the lake and crossed the Cottonwood and later the Redwood near the present site of Marshall. When thirty-seven miles north of Lake Shetek he turned east and crossed the Redwood again near the site of Redwood Falls. From the mouth of the Redwood he explored the south shore of the Minnesota river several miles up and down and returned to

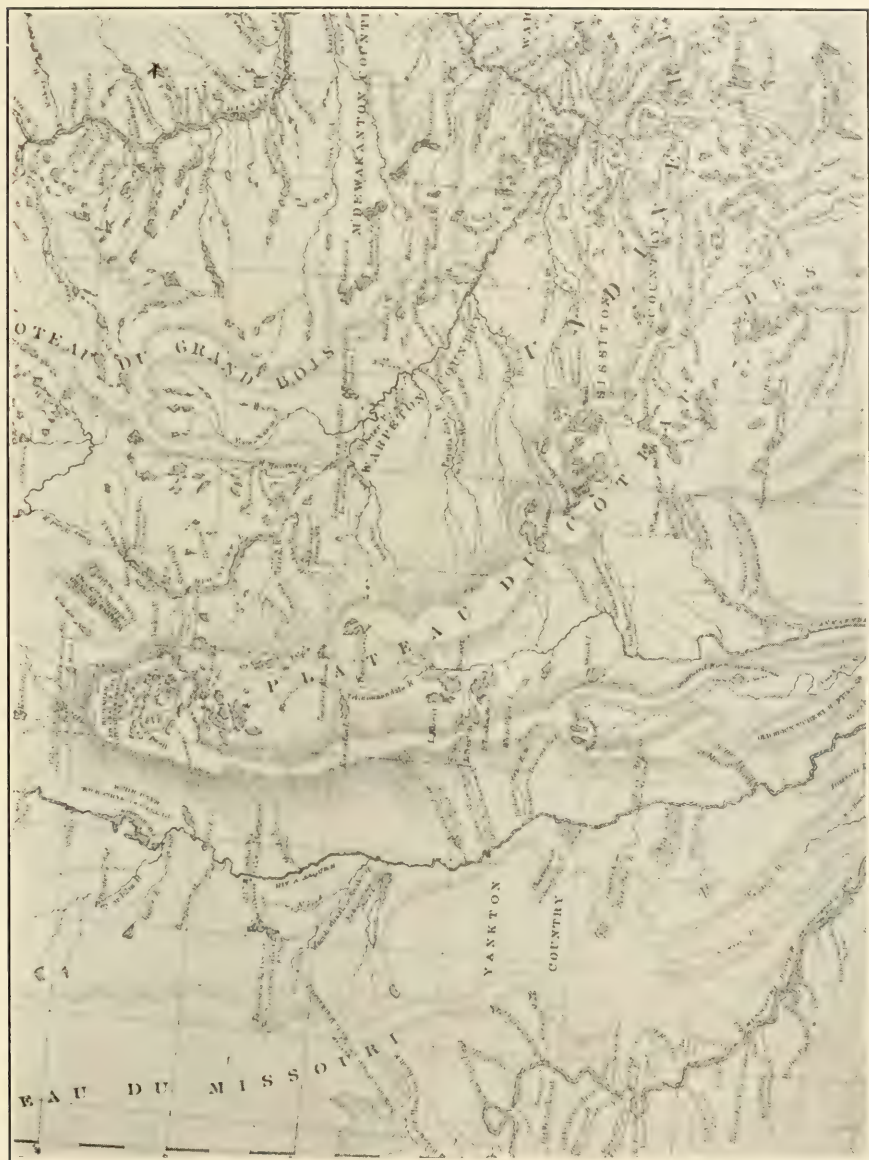
<sup>13</sup>On Nicollet's map, issued in 1843, his route to the quarries is indicated by a fine dotted line. This map at the time it was issued was the most complete and correct one of the upper Mississippi country. It covered all of Minnesota and Iowa, about one-half of Missouri, and much of the Dakotas, Wisconsin and Illinois. The author gave names to many streams and lakes and gave the first representation of the striking topographical features of the western and northern parts of Minnesota. He located, by astronomical observations, the numerous streams and lakes and the main geographical features of the state, filling in by eye-sketching and by pacing the intermediate objects.

Other explorers had visited and described the Coteau des Prairies, but Nicollet was the first one to define its boundaries on a map. He described the region west of the Mississippi as containing several plateaus, or elevated prairies, which marked the limits of the various river basins. The most remarkable of these, he declared, was the Plateau du Coteau des Prairies (plateau of prairie heights), a name bestowed by the earlier French explorers, and Coteau du Grand Bois

(wooded heights). Nicollet described the Coteau des Prairies as a vast plain, elevated 1916 feet above the level of the ocean and 890 feet above Big Stone lake, lying between latitudes forty-three and forty-six degrees, extending from northwest to southeast for a distance of 200 miles, its width varying from fifteen to forty miles. On the map he located it as extending from a point a short distance northwest of Lake Traverse in a southeasterly direction into Iowa, including the western part of Lyon county.

Of the country through which he passed on his way to the quarries Nicollet wrote:

"Whatever people may fix their abode in this region must necessarily become agriculturists and shepherds, drawing all their resources from the soil. They must not only raise the usual agricultural products for feeding, as is now but too generally done in some parts of the West, but they will have to turn their attention to other rural occupations, such as tending sheep for their wool, which would greatly add to their resources, as well as finally bring about a more extended application of the industrial arts among them."



NICOLLET'S MAP

Prepared from Data Secured on His Tours of Exploration in the Late Thirties.



Lake Shetek.<sup>14</sup> The expedition then set out for the west and went down the Big Sioux river to its mouth.

From events so far recorded it can be seen that up to the middle of the nineteenth century the general knowledge of the country comprising Southwestern Minnesota was extremely limited. For a decade after Captain Allen passed through Lyon county in 1844 there are no records of the visits of other white men, although undoubtedly some of the traders who had headquarters on the Minnesota river trod its soil occasionally.

Excepting what these nomadic people of the Indian country knew, we find that when Minnesota Territory was created in 1849 the southwestern portion was a veritable terra incognita.<sup>15</sup> In fact, all the land west of the Mississippi river was still in undisputed ownership of the Sioux bands, and white men (excepting the licensed traders) had no rights whatever in the country. But the tide of immigration to the West had set in and settlers were clamoring for admission to the rich lands west of the river. In time the legal barrier was removed.<sup>16</sup>

In the spring of 1851 President Fillmore, at the solicitation of residents of Minnesota Territory, directed that a treaty with the Sioux be made and

named as commissioners to conduct the negotiations Governor Alexander Ramsey, ex-officio commissioner for Minnesota, and Luke Lea, the national commissioner of Indian affairs. These commissioners completed a treaty with the Sisseton and Wahpaton bands the upper bands, as they were usually called—at Traverse des Sioux (near the present site of St. Peter) during the latter part of July, 1851. Immediately thereafter the commissioners proceeded to Mendota (near St. Paul), where they were successful in making a treaty with the Wahpakoota and M'daywakanton bands.

The treaties were ratified, with important amendments, by Congress in 1852. The amended articles were signed by the Indians in September, 1852, and in February of the next year President Fillmore proclaimed the treaties in force. By this important proceeding the future Lyon county passed from the ownership of the Sioux to the United States. By the two treaties there were transferred about 30,000,000 acres from 8000 Indians, the greater portion of the land lying in Minnesota.<sup>17</sup> The price paid was about twelve and one-half cents per acre.

After the lands were ceded settlers poured into the country west of the

<sup>14</sup>"From Lizard creek of the Des Moines to the source of the Des Moines, and thence east to the St. Peter's, is a range for elk and common deer, but principally elk. We saw a great many of the elk on our route and killed many of them; they were sometimes seen in droves of hundreds, but were always difficult to approach and very difficult to overtake in chase, except with a fleet horse and over good ground. No dependence could be placed in this country for the subsistence of troops marching through it."—Captain Allen's Report.

<sup>15</sup>"Westward of the Mississippi river the country was unexplored and virgin. There were wide expanses of wild and trackless prairie, never traversed by a white man, which are now the highly developed counties of Southern and Southwestern Minnesota, with their fine and flourishing cities and towns and the other institutions that make for a state's eminence and greatness. Catlin had passed from Little Rock to the Pipestone quarry; Nicollet and his surveying party had gone over the same route and had traveled along the Minnesota. Sibley and Fremont had chased elk over the prairies in what are now Steele, Dodge, Freeborn and Mower counties; the Missouri cattle drovers had led their herds to Fort Snelling and up to

the Red River regions, but in all, not fifty white men had passed over the tract of territory now comprising Southern and Southwestern Minnesota when the territory was admitted in 1849."—Return I. Holcombe in Minnesota in Three Centuries.

<sup>16</sup>In 1841 a treaty was negotiated by J. B. Doty, governor of Wisconsin, in councils held at Traverse des Sioux, Mendota and Wabasha, by the terms of which the Sioux were to cede about 25,000,000 acres of land, but the treaty was not confirmed by the Senate.

<sup>17</sup>The territory ceded by the Indians was declared to be: "All their lands in the state of Iowa and also all their lands in the territory of Minnesota lying east of the following line, to-wit: Beginning at the junction of the Buffalo river with the Red River of the North [about twelve miles north of Moorhead, in Clay county]; thence along the western bank of said Red River of the North to the mouth of the Sioux Wood river; thence along the western bank of said Sioux Wood river to Lake Traverse; thence along the western shore of said lake to the southern extremity thereof; thence in a direct line to the junction of Kampeska lake with the Teban-ka-sna-du-ta, or Sioux river; thence along the western bank of said river to its point of intersection

Mississippi river and settlements were founded at numerous places in the eastern part of the territory. But for some years they did not extend so far west as Lyon county, and until after the Sioux War the territory that comprises the county was largely the same virgin country it had always been.

During the year 1855 white people for the first time resided in Lyon county, if we except Joseph LaFramboise, who for a short time had a trading post within its boundaries. In the year mentioned James W. Lynd established a trading post in the Lynd woods on the Redwood, and Aaron Myers and family located on the Cottonwood, in the present township of Amiret.

It was during the month of May, 1855,<sup>18</sup> that James W. Lynd established his trading post on the Redwood. The original site was on land which when surveyed was found to be the northwest quarter of the northeast quarter of section 5, Lyons township,—land which later was taken as a homestead by Charles E. Goodell. The groves along the Redwood had always been a favorite camping ground of the Indians and the site was a model one for barter with the natives. The fur trade was a profitable one and Mr. Lynd is said to have carried on a successful business, trading sugar, blankets, calico, tobacco, ammunition and possibly whisky for pelts of

with the northern line of the state of Iowa; including all islands in said rivers and lakes."

Excluded from this territory were two reservations. That for the upper Sioux was a tract of land twenty miles wide, straddling the Minnesota river from Lake Traverse to the Yellow Medicine river. The reservation for the lower bands was of the same width and extended from the upper reserve down to the neighborhood of New Ulm. There were disputes regarding these reservations until Congress in 1863 annulled all treaty obligations toward the Sioux and the Indians were removed beyond the limits of the state.

<sup>18</sup>C. H. Whitney is the authority for giving this date as the time of the establishment of the post. He obtained the information from the half-breed LeMars and an old Indian, Shoto John by name.

<sup>19</sup>When Mr. Goodell took his claim in the late sixties he found the remains of a burned building on the site of the old post. In 1880, while plowing for a garden a short distance north of this place, he unearthed a tub full of tools, consisting of several handsaws, an augur,

the numerous fur-bearing animals. During a part of the time he employed in the store a half-breed, John Moore.

According to the best information available, the post was conducted at the original location on section 5 two years and was destroyed by fire.<sup>19</sup> It was then moved down the river a short distance to the northeast quarter of section 33, Lynd township, only a stone's throw from the present village of Lynd. It was on land which later became known as the Wright place. There he built a log cabin, in which he conducted his business some time longer and which in the late sixties was used by the settlers for various purposes. It is unknown how long Mr. Lynd operated the post in Lyon county. He moved to the Lower Agency on the Minnesota river, about six miles below Redwood Falls, and there established a store.<sup>20</sup>

The others who ventured far from the limits of civilization and founded a home in Lyon county in 1855 were Aaron Myers and family. That year he and his wife and children<sup>21</sup> made permanent settlement on what is now the northwest quarter of section 31, Amiret township. Myers located there for the purpose of trapping and trading with the Indians, and his home was there two years and six months. Mr. Myers has told of his residence there:<sup>22</sup>

"I was born in Herkimer county, chisels, hoes, a handax, flatiron, a teacup and saucer. The tub had entirely rotted away, only the impression being left by which to determine what it had been. Most of the tools were destroyed by rust.

<sup>20</sup>James W. Lynd was quite a prominent man in the affairs of the frontier country and served as a member of the State Senate in 1861. He was one of the first victims of the Sioux massacre, having met his death at the store of Nathan Myrick at the Lower Agency. Others killed with him were Andrew J. Myrick and G. W. Divoll.

<sup>21</sup>Mrs. Myers' maiden name was Walkup and she was born in Vermont January 31, 1826. She died as a result of exposure during the Sioux massacre. The children of the family were as follows: Louisa, born May 20, 1850; Arthur J., born November 20, 1851; Olive E., born July 24, 1854; Fred B., born May 25, 1857, died in 1864; Addie J., born May 12, 1861.

<sup>22</sup>Interview by Doane Robinson in February, 1900. At that time Mr. Myers resided near Garretson, South Dakota. He died there in March, 1905.

New York, June 8, 1825. I moved from Polk county, Wisconsin, to the piece of land now known as the Robinson farm<sup>23</sup> on the Cottonwood river, four miles above the present village of Amiret, Lyon county, Minnesota, where with my wife and five children I lived for more than two years. We planted some corn and a garden, but in the main we depended on trapping and trade with the Indians. At first everything went well with us and our relations with the Indians were pleasant."

Mr. Myers was known among the Indians as Siha Sisrinna (Small Feet). He was also called Doctor because he successfully treated several of the Indians who had sore eyes and also took care of those who were sick or injured. He became well-known among the natives who frequented the vicinity.<sup>24</sup>

During 1856 and 1857 a wagon road was constructed across southern Lyon county, being a part of the road between Fort Ridgely and the Missouri river, known as the "Fort Ridgely and South Pass Road." It was constructed by the United States government under direction of Albert H. Campbell, who bore the title of "General Superintendent Pacific Wagon Roads," but the field work was in charge of Colonel William H. Nobles.<sup>25</sup>

<sup>23</sup>The home of Mr. Myers was not on the George Robinson farm. When the pioneer revisited the scene in later years he recognized his old home on the Grover place, now the property of L. F. O'Brien. The original house is still standing.

<sup>24</sup>Much of the information concerning the early settlement of Saratoga (as the point later was known) is obtained from Dr. H. M. Workman, of Tracy, who secured it from Mr. Myers and others. I have also made use of data secured from Mr. Myers by Doane Robinson, now secretary of the South Dakota Historical Society.

<sup>25</sup>Colonel William H. Nobles was born in 1816. He constructed the first wagon road in Minnesota and became noted as the discoverer of the pass in the Rocky mountains which shortened the emigrant route to the Pacific side some 500 miles, and through which the Union Pacific railroad now passes. A Minnesota county is named in his honor. In 1861 he was president of the Minnesota Old Settlers' Association.

<sup>26</sup>The course of the road as described by Albert H. Campbell in his report to the secretary of the Interior February 19, 1859, was as follows:

"... This road was completed only as far as the Missouri river, 254 miles, some time in the fall of 1857,

The road entered Lyon county close to the line that separates Monroe and Amiret townships and crossed the Cottonwood on section 31, Amiret township, and section 36, Sodus township. Thence it continued westward, crossed the Redwood river near the present site of Russell, and passed close to Lake Benton. From the lake it extended to the Missouri river.<sup>26</sup> The road was intended as a highway for emigrant trains to the Pacific coast, but the eastern end of the road, at least, was never so used.

What particularly interests the people of Lyon county is the fact that Colonel Nobles had a permanent camp at the crossing of the Cottonwood, spent one or two winters there with his men, erected a house, stables and corral, and there built the finest bridge on the road. At the camp was a spring of water, which later became known as Nobles' Spring, while across the river was a fenced field, in which it is believed the roadmakers raised a garden. The bridge had a substantial set of abutments and the stable had a stone foundation laid in mortar. The ruins of the Nobles camp were in existence many years after the county was settled.

The following account of the building of the road and the activities in Lyon county is taken from the report of

in consequence of the insufficiency of the appropriation and of alleged Indian hostilities. The general location of this road is as follows: Beginning at the ferry on the Minnesota river, which is 150 feet wide at this place, opposite Fort Ridgely. The general course of the road is southwesterly, passing through a marshy region a few miles south of Limping Devil's lake to the north fork of the Cottonwood, a distance of about seventeen miles, thence to the Cottonwood river, over a rolling country, with lakes and marshes, about one and one-half miles below the mouth of Plum creek, distance about nineteen miles. From this point the road continues across Plum creek and three good watering places to the crossing of Cottonwood at Big Wood, about eighteen and one-half miles. Thence the road continues to Hole-in-the-Mountain, near Lake Benton, a distance of about thirty-two miles, passing through a region abounding in lakes and an abundance of wood, water and grass. From Lake Benton the road passes for the most part over a high prairie to the Big Sioux river, about twenty-three and one-half miles. . . . This road, as far as built, is remarkably direct and is believed, from the description of the country through which it passes, to be the best location which could have been made, securing a plentiful supply of water, grass and timber."

Colonel William H. Nobles, dated January 18, 1858, "upon the Fort Ridgely and South Pass Wagon Road, constructed under the direction of the Department of the Interior, 1856-57-58";<sup>27</sup>

I have to report that I have located and built a good wagon road from Fort Ridgely to the Missouri river, in latitude 43 degrees, 47 minutes, between Bijou hill and Fort "Look-out."

The road has been selected and made with a view to accommodate the emigrant, by having it pass through a good country and in the vicinity of wood and water; and also, with these valuable considerations always in sight, I have been able to complete the road in almost a direct line from Fort Ridgely to the terminus on the Missouri river. . . . The rivers on the road to be crossed are North Branch of the Cottonwood river, Cottonwood river (twice), Redwood river, Medary creek, Big Sioux river, Perrine creek, Riviere du Jacques or James river, besides a number of small creeks.

On the Cottonwood river I have constructed a rough bridge adapted to the present travel, but it is important that this river should be well bridged at both of the crossings. The rapid flow of emigration to this section of country also demands that the bridges be immediately constructed.

At this time most alarming accounts had been received from the Yellow Medicine, and messengers were going through the country preparing the frontiers in anticipation of a general Indian war.

In view of these difficulties I returned to my former camp on the Cottonwood river and employed my men bridging that stream and repairing wagons, harness, etc. . . .

I have erected on the Cottonwood river a substantial log house, with store-room, etc., and have placed the stock and property in charge of a small number of men. I have also erected good stables for the protection of the animals, cut and secured hay sufficient, I think, to keep them through an ordinary winter.

During a part of the time of the residence of the Myers family in Lyon county, a trapper, Charles Hammer by name—but commonly called "Swede

Charley"—made his home there and operated in the vicinity. Mr. Myers described him as a good-natured fellow, but did not know whence he came or what later became of him.

J. H. Ingalls is another who established a home in the same vicinity during the time Mr. Myers resided there. With four children (his wife was dead) he located on the Cottonwood a little above Mr. Myers' home, also on section 31, Amiret township, and near the Nobles stables. But little is known of Ingalls' life in Lyon county and it is known that he remained only a short time. He married again and with his wife and two daughters, aged twelve and fourteen years, met death in the massacre of 1862. Two other children, boys, were taken prisoners.

While the Myers family was living in this out-of-the-way place, in the spring of 1857, the Dakota Land Company located a townsite, named Saratoga, on section 1, Custer, near the Myers home.<sup>28</sup> A house was erected on the townsite and John Renniker, an employe, was left in charge. He has been described as a plain, honest Pennsylvania Dutchman. The sole inhabitant of Saratoga determined to turn a penny to his own account and sold whisky to the Indians, in consequence of which he soon lost his position. Thereafter Saratoga was deserted and Renniker made his home with Mr. Myers, by whom he was employed.

Mr. Myers made a trip to the Sioux

who had the foresight and courage to venture. Elaborate schemes for big ventures were planned; nothing was done in a niggardly manner; frenzied finance reigned supreme.

Railroad rumors filled the air and "paper" roads covered the territory from one end to the other, most of them backed by bonuses granted by the Legislature. Townsite companies were organized and extensively operated. Townsites were indiscriminately planted on the frontier and the Legislature was prevailed upon to establish wagon roads leading to them, to pass acts declaring them incorporated villages, and to declare them the county seats of counties created for the purpose—counties in which lived not a human being.

Such were the conditions when Saratoga was founded.

<sup>27</sup>Secured through the kindness of Hon. Warren Upham, secretary of the Minnesota Historical Society.

<sup>28</sup>The Dakota Land Company also laid out towns at Flandreau, Medary, Sioux Falls and other points on the Big Sioux river, far out in the Indian country, and planned big for the colonization of the frontier. It seems strange, indeed, that any company of sane men would attempt to found a town in such a country as Lyon county was in 1857, but the act was not more out of the ordinary than many that were proposed.

The fifties were remarkable ones in Minnesota Territory by reason of the immense tide of immigration and the consequent activity in real estate operations. The fever of real estate speculation attacked all classes. Enormous and rapid profits were made by speculators

river country in the spring of 1857 with a party of the Dakota Land Company, but soon returned home. Upon his return he sent Renniker with his oxen and wagon to New Ulm for supplies. Contrary to his employer's expressed instructions, Renniker bought a ten-gallon cask of whisky and started home. John Campbell, a notorious half-breed, had witnessed the purchase and with a party of seven Sioux warriors followed and overtook the unfortunate man near the present village of Walnut Grove. Renniker was murdered and the goods taken by Campbell and the Indians.<sup>29</sup>

Renniker's death became known and "Swede Charley," accompanied by Hoel Parmelee, one of the settlers at Lake Shetek, set out to find the body. They secured the assistance of Andrew Koch, who lived in the vicinity, and found the murdered man near Nobles' crossing of the Cottonwood, on or near section 19, township 109, range 38. The body was brought to Saratoga and buried on the ridge north of Mr. Myers' house.

After the murder Mr. Myers feared to have his family exposed to Indian attack and moved to the Lake Shetek settlement, which had in the meantime been established. There he and his family resided until the massacre of 1862, when they barely escaped with their lives.

In the late fifties when settlers pushed out to the Lake Shetek country they came over the Nobles road to near Walnut Grove and then switched off and proceeded to the lake by way of Lake Sigel. This route was said to have been taken because water was

more easily obtained. In 1861 a road was laid out between New Ulm and Sioux Falls by "a lawyer, a cross-eyed man from Dubuque—called 'Old Steve'—and Hoel Parmelee,"<sup>30</sup> which made a shorter route between the two settlements than over the Nobles trail by way of Saratoga. The trail crossed the lower end of Lake Shetek and did not touch Lyon county.

Lyon county was left destitute of white inhabitants after the departure of Messrs. Lynd and Myers and remained so until several years after the Sioux War. During these years white men had established homes almost to the border of the county, but none had had the hardihood to venture quite so far from the more populous communities.

Mankato and New Ulm had grown into thriving little villages and the country adjacent to them had become settled. Farther up the Minnesota were Fort Ridgely and the two Indian agencies, at which resided many white people. To the south, Jackson county had attained a population of two or three hundred people, a small colony had been established in the Graham Lakes country of Nobles county, and just over the Lyon county line, on Lake Shetek, there was a thriving little settlement. Even farther west, on the Big Sioux river, colonies had been planted and were striving to hold the land. On Lake Benton in after years were found ruins of the homes of people who had lived there before the massacre, but nothing is known of them or their fate.<sup>31</sup>

Thus we have knowledge that people

growing not far from where the Normal School now stands. It is said that a posse pursued the Indians, overtook them in Lyon county or nearby, and shot down the five accomplices.

<sup>30</sup>The information originated with Hoel Parmelee, who settled at Lake Shetek about 1855, and was secured by Dr. H. M. Workman.

<sup>31</sup>A writer in the Lake Benton News of January 27, 1881, said: "There is evidence that the country around Lake Benton had early settlers. A gentleman who settled at Lake Benton in March, 1869, has said

<sup>29</sup>John Campbell was lynched in Mankato in 1865 for the alleged murder of the Jewett family. He and Mr. Jewett had served in the same company in the army and after the war Campbell had located near LeSueur, while Jewett, who was known to have about \$300 in cash, had returned to his home on a farm near Mankato. Soon after, so it was believed, Campbell and five Indians went to the Jewett home and murdered the whole family with the exception of a baby and Mr. Jewett's father, who had been left for dead.

Campbell was taken into custody and his life was brought to a close by being suspended from a tree

were living on all sides of the future Lyon county prior to the outbreak of the Sioux War. But from the time of the departure of the traders, Lynd and Myers, until after the Sioux were driven from the country we have no record of the permanent occupation of Lyon county by white men.

But, while the county was not occupied permanently during this period, we know that at least a few trappers operated here. Three such were Luther C. Ives, George Lamb and Charles Fesenden.<sup>32</sup> The men spent the winter of 1860-61 on Lake Shetek and the next winter lived in Indian tepees at Saratoga. Mr. Lamb was killed in the massacre of August, 1862, near New Ulm and Mr. Ives took part in the defense of that city.

Another man who claimed to have trapped extensively in Lyon county during this period was T. J. Bowers. According to his story he employed a number of trappers and had his headquarters in the vicinity of Saratoga, where he lived in a dug-out. He made the statement that at the time of the massacre he was a scout in the government employ, and that he spent the night of August 20, 1862—the date of the Lake Shetek massacre—in the Myers cabin at Saratoga.<sup>33</sup>

It is possible that temporary settlement may have been made at another point in Lyon county before the Sioux War. On sections 32 and 29, Lake

that when he arrived there were only two other settlers in the vicinity—William Taylor and Charles Shindle. He reported that there were several vacant houses scattered around the lake—six of them—partly burned. There were also several large pieces of breaking done. On one place there were a large number of rails and posts split in the timber and logs cut but not split. The writer asked several of the Indians about this, but they knew nothing. His opinion was that they fell victims to the 1862 massacre. The writer found the skeletons of two persons about where the Lake Benton depot now stands."

<sup>32</sup>The data for this paragraph were obtained from a personal interview with Mr. Ives, who now lives in South Dakota.

<sup>33</sup>Mr. Bowers was in Tracy June 9, 1893, and in company with Dr. H. M. Workman, Earle Miller and Niel Currie he drove out to the scenes of his early

Marshall township, the settlers of 1870 found one or two pieces of land which had been broken many years before. The furrows had grown over to grass and stood as solid as the unbroken prairie. Those who made the discovery estimated that the breaking must have been done before the massacre.

Whoever may have resided in the county previously had departed before the Indian outbreak of August, 1862, and Lyon county was destitute of inhabitants when the outbreak occurred.

Fortunate was it for Lyon county that settlements were not located within its boundaries when the terrible Sioux massacre came upon the exposed frontier in the awful days of August, 1862. For the fair soil of Southwestern Minnesota was crimsoned with the blood of many innocent men, women and children. Fiendish atrocity, blood-curdling cruelty and red-handed murder ran riot. The murder-crazed redskins plied the rifle and tomahawk until not less than eight hundred victims had paid the penalty for trying to extend the limits of civilization. The massacre was the most stupendous one in the annals of Indian warfare, and only for the fact that it contained no settlers did Lyon county escape the awful calamity.

The valley of the Minnesota river was drenched with blood. In the present counties of Brown, Nicollet, Redwood, Renville and Yellow Medicine men, women and children were butchered by

activities. Of this trip and the evidence that Mr. Bowers had operated there as maintained, Dr. Workman has written:

"He [Bowers] said he would like to drive out to Saratoga and look that country over once more. That he had been there in an early day cannot be questioned. We went to the Nobles spring, stable and bridge, and from there he pointed up the river to Jim Morgan's place and said: 'I was there last in 1864 and never returned—left in January.' . . . We drove over and a short way up the river, and about seventy-five feet from it, on the banks of a small creek, we found the dug-out as described. It was west of George Robinson's and south of the fenced field. Robinson and Morgan had never seen it. . . . He claimed that he had left in the dug-out several hundred traps and that he employed fourteen men to trap. We dug out the place, but found nothing."

the hundreds. At other exposed points in Southwestern Minnesota the redskins fell upon the settlers and enacted lesser tragedies—lesser only because their victims were not so numerous. At Wood lake, only a few miles from the Lyon county line, was fought the deciding battle of the war. At Lake Shetek, just beyond the southern boundary of Lyon county, occurred one of the famous butcheries of the massacre, participated in by Indians who had their homes on the Redwood river in Lyon county.

In the settlement at Lake Shetek at the time of the massacre were about fifty persons, consisting of the following named men and their families: John Eastlick, Charles Hatch, Phineas B. Hurd,<sup>34</sup> John Wright, William J. Duley, H. W. Smith, Aaron Myers,<sup>35</sup> William Everett,<sup>36</sup> Thomas Ireland, Andrew Koch; and the following named single men: William Jones,<sup>37</sup> Edgar Bentley, \*John Voigt, E. G. Koch, John F. Burns and Daniel Burns.<sup>38</sup>

On the twentieth of August about twenty Sioux came to the lake and ruthlessly murdered a number of the settlers, wounded many more, and took some into captivity. They were headed by White Lodge, chief of one of the upper bands, and accompanying them were Grizzly Bear (also known as Lean Bear) and others from the Lynd woods.<sup>39</sup> These Indians were acquainted with the Lake Shetek settlers and in the past had been shown many kindnesses by them. Their attack was the basest treachery.

The first home visited was that of Phineas B. Hurd, who was absent at the time. Ten of the Indians entered the house and while Mrs. Hurd prepared breakfast talked and smoked their pipes. E. G. Voigt, the hired man, picked up

the baby when it awoke and cried and walked out in the yard with it. No sooner had he left the house than an Indian deliberately shot him dead near the door. Mrs. Hurd was amazed at the deed, for these Indians had always been kindly treated and had often fed at her table. She ran to the assistance of the fallen man and her baby, but a miscreant intercepted and she was ordered to leave at once and go to the settlements across the prairie. She was even refused the privilege of dressing her naked children and was compelled to commence her wandering over the trackless prairie, without food and practically without raiment for herself and children.

The next place visited was the home of Andrew Koch. Mr. Koch was shot, the house was plundered, and Mrs. Koch taken prisoner by White Lodge. She was with the Indians ten days and was finally rescued at Camp Release.

Some of the settlers fled to the settlements when the attack on the others became known, while others gathered at the house of John Wright and prepared it for defense. For some reason they abandoned the house to seek protection in a slough. The Indians at once commenced firing on the retreating party and the whites returned the fire as they fled. Those wounded in the flight to the slough were Charles Hatch, William Everett, John Eastlick, Mrs. Eastlick, Mrs. Everett and several children.

Upon receiving the Indians' promise that they would not be harmed, the women and children left the protection of the slough and went to the savages. No sooner were they out than Mrs. Everett, Mrs. Smith, Mrs. Ireland and several of the children were killed. Mrs. Eastlick was shot and left for dead

<sup>34</sup>Was absent at the time of the massacre.

<sup>35</sup>Had formerly lived in Lyon county.

<sup>36</sup>Later became a resident of Marshall.

<sup>37</sup>Was absent at the time of the massacre.

<sup>38</sup>The Burns brothers lived alone on a claim at Walnut Grove, some distance from the lake.

<sup>39</sup>Among the Indians participating were Old Pawn, Chaska, Tizzie Tonka, Titonah Che Che (Bad Ox) and White Owl.

but she finally made her escape with two of her children. Mrs. Julia A. Wright, Mrs. William J. Duley and four of their children were taken captive and some of them were ransomed at Fort Pierre. All other settlers made their escape, many of them after innumerable hardships. The Burns brothers were not attacked.<sup>40</sup>

Southwestern Minnesota had received a setback from which it took many years to recover. After the inauguration of the fiendish warfare the frontier line receded eastward and the greater part of Southwestern Minnesota was again in the midst of the hostile Indian country. Steps were taken to defend the exposed settlements, to conquer the redskins and drive them back.

The Civil War was in progress and most of the able-bodied men were in the South, fighting for the Union. It therefore required some time to muster troops and place them in advantageous positions to cope with the wily red foe. But after some delay the Indians were driven back, soldiers were placed all through the western country, and the prairies were patrolled by companies detailed for the service. The expeditions against the hostile Sioux resulted in Lyon county being occasionally visited by military parties.

The savages were in time subdued, but for a number of years settlers on the extreme frontier lived in a state of constant anxiety, not knowing at what time the scenes of 1862 might be repeated. When peace was established on the

border, settlement again commenced—destined this time to be permanent—and the frontier line moved westward rapidly.

In 1864 two brothers, Moore by name, came from Eastern Minnesota and braved the dangers of locating in proximity to the Indians. They located on the southwest quarter of section 8, Lake Marshall township, and broke some land. But they soon became alarmed for their safety and deserted their claims.

In 1865 or 1866 Denman Greeman located on the Myers place at Saratoga, but within a short time moved to the Lake Shetek settlement and became a permanent resident.

A few half-breeds made pretense of holding claims along the Redwood in Lyon county after the massacre. Alexander and Joseph LaFramboise, Jr., sons of the first white man to settle in the county, had claims in Lynd township, which they sold to A. W. Muzzy and E. B. Langdon in 1867. Thomas Robinson, a French half-breed, had a claim on section 27, Lynd, which he sold to Ralph Holland in the spring of 1868. John Mooers, a half-breed son of Hazen Mooers, sold a claim on section 34, Lynd, to Arthur Ransom at the same time.

Lyon county remained destitute of white population until 1867. That year a few pushed out to the Redwood river country, selected claims, and established permanent homes. At last the country which had been the home of the aborigine for countless ages was possessed by the whites.

<sup>40</sup>Dr. H. M. Workman has prepared the following list of people who were residents (or had been just prior to the outbreak) of the Lake Shetek settlement at the time of the massacre and the fate of each:

Killed—John Voigt, Andrew Koch, Sophia Ireland, Sarah Jane Ireland, Julianne Ireland, John Eastlick, Frederick Eastlick, Giles Eastlick, William J. Duley, Jr., Bell Duley, Emma Duley, Mrs. Sophia Smith, Mariah Everett, Willie Everett, Charley Everett.

Taken Captive and Later Rescued—Mariah Koch, Rosannah Ireland, Ellen Ireland, Franklin Eastlick, two Duley children, Mrs. William J. Duley, Mrs. Julia Wright, Dora Wright, George Wright, Abillian Everett.

Present but Escaped—Aaron Myers, Mrs. Aaron

Myers, Louisa Myers, Arthur Myers, Olive Myers, Fred B. Myers, Addie J. Myers, Almiona Hurd, William Henry Hurd, Baby Hurd, Thomas Ireland, Lavina Eastlick, Merton Eastlick, Johnnie Eastlick, William J. Duley, H. Watson Smith, William Everett, Charles Hatch, Edgar Bentley, Charles Ziercke and family, Frank Labache, Rhodes, Dan Burns, John Burns.

Absent—Phineas B. Hurd, William Jones, E. G. Koch, J. G. Wright, Sam Jacques, Wesson Lake Macabee.

Had Moved Away—Albino Griswold, Hoel Parmelee, Sam Brown, Hank Brown, Lamb, Bassett, J. H. Ingalls.

## CHAPTER II.

### EARLY SETTLEMENT—1867-1869.

THERE is always something connected with the settlement of a new country that interests, and so it is with Lyon county. Often, however, there is a tendency on the part of the chronicler of local history to paint, polish and varnish the stories of the early days, so that sometimes those who were the principal actors in the drama enacted fail to recognize themselves or their part in the play. It is my intention to steer clear of this fault and avoid fiction in dealing with the early day events, and to rely solely upon the facts to make the narrative interesting.

After the close of the Civil War and the subjugation of the Indians, there was a great tide of immigration to the western country. To all parts of the upper Mississippi valley came the homeseekers, who spread out over the rich lands of Iowa, Minnesota, Kansas and Nebraska. Most of the emigrants were from the eastern and central states, where timber was abundant, and their first choice was always wooded land along the streams. So it came about that the first settlement in Lyon county was made in the timber tract along the Redwood river in the townships of Lynd and Lyons.

Permanent settlement in Lyon county

began in 1867. The year before, however, a few men had visited that part of Redwood county which later was set off as Lyon for the purpose of spying out the land and selecting claims.

A. W. Muzzy made a trip to the Lynd woods in 1866 and there found several families of half-breeds occupying claims by squatters' rights. He selected a claim held by LaFramboise on section 33, Lynd, bargained for the purchase of the same, and made arrangements with the half-breed to hold the claim until his return. This LaFramboise did, living in the log cabin formerly occupied by James Lynd as his trading post.<sup>1</sup>

In 1866 also came Charles E. Goodell and his cousin, Will Stone. They spent some time hunting, trapping and cutting timber, they having conceived the idea of cutting logs in the Lynd woods and floating them down the river during high water to a mill at Redwood Falls. They soon abandoned the scheme. Mr. Goodell determined to make his home in the county and selected as a claim the northeast quarter of section 5, Lyons township, the site of the first Lynd trading post. He came back again in 1867, but did not locate permanently until January, 1868.

<sup>1</sup>Article by Mrs. C. F. Wright dated February 23, 1874.

The first settler to make a permanent home in the county was T. W. Castor, who located on the extreme eastern border of the county in the spring of 1867. Part of his claim was on section 34, Stanley township, and the rest was over the line in Redwood county. He built a house on the claim and resided there several years. It is said that he hauled his supplies from Redwood Falls during the winter on a handsled drawn by a Newfoundland dog. To T. W. and Mary Castor, on September 12, 1867, the first white child in Lyon county was born. His name was Hugh Wilson Castor and he died of diphtheria in Iowa.<sup>2</sup>

During the month of June, 1867, A. W. Muzzy, who had selected his claim the previous year, came to take possession and he was accompanied by E. B. Langdon. Both dated their permanent residence in Lyon county from that time. Their families came in September.<sup>3</sup> During the fall months of 1867 there also joined the little settlement in the Lynd woods and became established residents the following: L. W. Langdon and family (including a nephew, Emerson Hull), Luman Ticknor and his wife and step-daughter, Elizabeth Taylor; M. V. Davidson and family, Mrs. C. F. Wright and son, D. M. Taylor and E. E.

Taylor. All of these located in the woods in Lynd township and all spent the following winter in their new homes.

Others came during the year to view the new land and some selected claims with the intention of returning the next year, but the ones mentioned were the only ones who may properly be termed settlers of 1867.<sup>4</sup> When the first settlers arrived Lyon county had not been divided into townships or sections, but during the months of July, August, September and October Surveyors R. H. L. Jewett and George G. Howe and their assistants ran the lines.<sup>5</sup> Thereafter the settlers could select their claims intelligently, although it was some time later when the plats were placed on record and filings could be made at the land office.

The first arrivals to the Lynd settlement were religiously inclined and on September 26, 1867, the first religious services in the county were held, participated in by A. W. Muzzy, his daughter, Sophia, wife of Rev. C. F. Wright of the Methodist church, and L. Langdon and family.<sup>6</sup>

The Lynd settlement was decidedly on the frontier. To the north the nearest neighbors were on the Minnesota river, to the east only a few settlers were to be found until the Minnesota river

<sup>2</sup>T. W. Castor was a graduate of Oberlin College. He was a man of positive temperament, peculiar in his views, independent in his thinking. He was a scout under General Sibley during the Indian War and at one time served as deputy register of deeds of Olmsted county. Mr. Castor was a pioneer of Redwood Falls but remained only a short time. He settled in Lyon county with the intention of raising stock and was the county's pioneer stock man. The first winter of his stay he had only one cow, and from that he increased until he had quite a herd. Mr. Castor was a member of the Board of County Commissioners in 1874. In the late seventies he moved to Pottawattamie county, Iowa.

<sup>3</sup>A. W. Muzzy was untiring in his efforts to induce immigration to the vicinity. He wrote articles descriptive of the country to newspapers in the East and West and enlisted the attention and co-operation of many leading men of Minnesota. His settlement in the county was due to his desire to found a Methodist colony. He and his son-in-law, Rev. C. F. Wright, planned to establish a large church and school for the education of the Indians. The scheme proved to be a visionary one, but it resulted in giving to Lyon county many desirable citizens.

<sup>4</sup>Among those who visited the region in search of land in 1867 were Lambert Marcyes and his son, Hiram R. Marcyes. They met some of the party that had preceded them and inquired where good land could be found, supplied with timber and water. The new arrivals were informed that several belts of timber had been seen at a distance, which were supposed to be along creeks or bordering the several lakes nearby, and that quite a forest was known to exist on a creek about three miles to the northwest, to which the Marcyes took their way. On returning at night one of the many questions asked was where they had been during the day. They replied, "over to that three-mile creek," and ever since the stream has borne the name Three-Mile creek.

<sup>5</sup>The townships of Lucas, Vallers and Westerheim had been surveyed in August and September, 1859, by Mahlon Black, but the surveyor neglected to make proper bounds and the stakes were mostly destroyed by prairie fires. The township of Custer was surveyed in 1867 by Shaw & Taylor and Eidsvold the same year by David Watson.

<sup>6</sup>See history of the Methodist church of Marshall, chapter 10.

was reached, to the south (excepting a few settlers on Lake Shetek) it was many long miles to the nearest white homes, while to the west all was uninhabited country.<sup>7</sup> The making of homes in the frontier land was not accomplished without many difficulties and carried with it sacrifices and most of the comforts that make life endurable for him who has had the savage educated out of him. The only visitors were the Indians and half-breeds, who were still in the vicinity in small numbers. The prairies were unbroken by roads or groves, and the winter storms and summer prairie fires chased the elk and antelope without hindrance.

But the human habit of adaptability to environment and the hope of future competence from the fertile farms to be secured under the homestead law carried the pioneers through the dark days. Wild game furnished a part of the bill of fare and the timber furnished fuel and material for the homes. The houses were of logs, the roofs of shakes split from oak trees, the floors of rough plank hewn from the timber.

In 1868 the population of Lyon county was increased. To Lynd township came Levi S. Kiel, who has ever since had his home in the county; James Cummins, A. R. Cummins and George Cummins, who became prominent in the early affairs of the county; Lambert Marcyes, George Marcyes and Hiram Marcyes, who became well-known residents; A. D. Morgan, who became the county's first store keeper and postmaster; Jacob Rouse, who still resides in the county; Ralph Holland and Arthur Ransom, who purchased claims from half-breeds; Rev. C. F. Wright, who was the first minister; Andrew

Nelson, who has ever since lived in Lyon county; Mrs. Bowers, a daughter of A. W. Muzzy, who came in April and died of consumption on April 20, one week after her arrival, hers being the first death in the county; John Clark, Henry B. Nichols and possibly others.

Charles E. Goodell returned to his claim in Lyons township in January, 1868, and during that year C. H. Hildreth, Luther Hildreth and W. S. Adams located in the same precinct, all taking claims along the Redwood river.

To the timber tract along the Cottonwood river, in the present townships of Custer and Amiret, also came a few settlers in 1868. Charles Grover, Lafayette Grover and Clark Goodrich settled in Amiret, and H. C. Masters, John Avery, Horace Randall, Walter S. Clayson, Edward Horton and G. S. Robinson took claims in Custer. These settlements were all made in the vicinity of the old townsite of Saratoga and for several years the community bore that name.

Nearly all these arrivals of 1868 brought families and builded themselves homes. Until after 1868 the population of Lyon county was confined to two settlements (excepting the T. W. Castor family): the one on the Redwood river occupying the timber lands in Lynd and Lyons townships, and the other on the Cottonwood in Custer and Amiret townships. Of these the Lynd settlement was the larger and for several years dominated the affairs of the county.

Several important events occurred in the Lynd community during 1868 that tended to establish the permanency of the settlement and to make for the convenience of those who had cast their fortunes on the frontier. One was the

<sup>7</sup>The first white settlers in Nobles county arrived July 4, 1867; only two families had their homes in Rock county during the winter of 1867-68; in Pipestone

county were no whites until 1874; the first settlement in the county of Lincoln was made in 1868.

establishment of a postoffice in June with D. M. Taylor as postmaster. It was located on section 34, Lynd township,—the site of what later became known as Lower Lynd. A weekly mail was received by way of Redwood Falls.<sup>8</sup> Mr. Taylor also put in a small stock of groceries and other goods—in a room said to have been almost large enough for a bed room—and conducted a store for a short time.

The same season Luman Ticknor opened a hotel for the convenience of the few people who visited the settlement.<sup>9</sup> In the summer of 1868 Jacob Rouse and James Cummins dammed the Redwood river at the point which later became known as Upper Lynd and put in a small sawmill, which proved to be quite a convenience to the settlers. It was changed to a gristmill in 1872. The same year C. H. Hildreth commenced building a mill at a point on the Redwood about two miles below the present village of Russell, but the place was destroyed by fire the same fall and the project was abandoned.<sup>10</sup>

While a few conveniences had been established in the settlement, they fell far short of meeting the demands. The sawmill was not in operation until 1869 and before that time it was the

custom to haul logs to Redwood Falls, fifty miles distant, have them sawed, and then haul the lumber back, several settlers generally making the trip together. Excepting the little store of Mr. Taylor, Redwood Falls was the nearest trading point. That village had only two stores, run on the trading post style, and they catered but little to the white trade.<sup>11</sup> The nearest flouring mill was at New Ulm and there a part of the trading was done.

There were a few additions in 1869 and others came to the county, took claims, made improvements, and prepared to make permanent settlement the following spring. To the Saratoga settlement, in Amiret township, came James Mitchell; to the township of Vallers, which had not before had a settler, came Johannes Anderson; to Lyons came W. C. Adams; to Lake Marshall, L. W. Langdon and E. B. Langdon; to Lynd, T. T. Pierce, H. L. Pierce, George W. Pierce, Parker I. Pierce, Warren S. Eastman, T. S. Eastman and V. Eastman. Besides those mentioned, C. H. Whitney, C. H. Upton and E. G. Bascomb took claims in Lake Marshall, O. A. Hawes and R. Waterman in Lynd, and Moses Fifield and Mendell Fifield in Lyons. All made

<sup>8</sup>The first mail brought to the office was carried by William Jackson, the first white male child born in St. Paul. He sold the contract to one Castle, of Yellow Medicine, and the latter in turn to Peter Ortt, of Redwood Falls. H. J. Tripp carried the mail for Ortt for a time and later secured the contract. The Lynd postoffice was under the management of D. M. Taylor four years.

<sup>9</sup>"The travel through Lynd at that time couldn't have been very large or regular. Bands of Flandreau Indians camped in the woods occasionally and a few travelers from Redwood Falls now and then stopped there on the way to settlements beyond. Between Lynd and Redwood Falls there was but one house."—Case's History of Lyon County.

<sup>10</sup>The first marriage in the county occurred October 17, 1868, when Ida Marie Hildreth, at the age of fifteen years, became the wife of Henry B. Nichols. The second marriage was that of W. H. Langdon and Zilpha Cummins, which was also in 1868.

The first Fourth of July celebration was held in 1868 at A. W. Muzzy's home.

Luman Ticknor plowed the first ground for crop in the spring of 1868. W. C. Adams and Arthur Ransom

sowed the first grain and the latter operated the first fanning mill. The first wheat was raised by A. R. Cummins in 1869. The first horses in the county were owned by E. B. Langdon, first mules by M. V. Davidson, first chickens and turkeys by L. W. Langdon, first hogs by Luman Ticknor, and first dog by James Cummins.

A. R. Cummins made the first barrels that were in the county; James Cummins made the first chair; George Cummins and Charles E. Goodell split the first rails; T. T. Pierce and son burnt the first brick, a kiln of 40,000, brought in the first blacksmith's tools, and set out the first grove.

<sup>11</sup>"Perhaps you would like to know how people got along with no railroad nearer than Mankato, although boats were running to New Ulm when the water was high enough. We did a greater part of our trading at Redwood Falls, distant fifty miles, and no place to put up until we got to Mr. Castor's, twenty-five miles. If we had any blacksmithing to be done, it had to be taken to Redwood Falls. I have known our townsman, A. D. Morgan, to walk that fifty miles in one day, with a plow lay on his back, and return the next day. Charles Goodell has done as well."—Correspondent in Marshall Messenger, June 30, 1881.

slight improvements in 1869 and returned to remain the following year.<sup>12</sup>

Prior to this time the only claims taken had been in the timber; now selections were made on the prairie tracts and some at quite a distance from the older settlements of Lynd and Saratoga.

I can close this chapter no more fittingly than by reproducing an article written by Mrs. Fellows, of Lynd, and read before the old settlers' gathering in February, 1885. It gives a very true idea of conditions in 1869:

The time I first saw Lyon county, in the dark days of 1869, there were about a dozen in our settlement, scattered along the Redwood river in the timber. Another settlement, nearly as large as ours, was on the Cottonwood river, and another at Lake Benton. These constituted the entire population of our county. What was then one county has been divided into two, Lyon and Lincoln.

The settlers lived in small, low, miserable log houses; indeed, some of them were originally Indian tepees, remodeled to suit the emergency. Some were without floors, except the solid earth with a covering of prairie grass; after it became dry and broken it was raked off and fresh grass cut and spread down. Of course, the floors needed no sweeping, and that was something saved, as there was a chance to economize in brooms. Economy, rigid economy, was the rule.

A roof made of shingles was almost unknown. The houses were roofed, some with hay, some with earth, but the prevailing fashion was a shake roof. I fancy only the initiated have seen or heard of the shake roof. It consisted of flat, clumsy pieces of wood, all sizes and widths, and,

as nearly as I can remember, about three feet long, split and shaped and smoothed with a broad-ax, overlapping each other shingle-fashion, serving as a mere covering, keeping out the sun, but affording little protection. The wind and snow and rain and flies and mosquitoes and gnats and all other nice things had full liberty to come and go at will. And of all these things there was no lack.

In those days there were blizzards, too, real genuine blizzards. The winds were not tempered to the shorn lamb, not by a good deal. After a blizzard what a picture our houses presented! Floors, beds, everything, were fancifully covered—decorations enough to have satisfied the most esthetic admirer of Oscar Wilde. Here and there and everywhere were festoons and wreaths and garlands and every imaginary thing of "the snow, the beautiful snow," filling the house, above and below. We didn't enjoy it a bit, however. With the mercury frolicking among the lower twenties, the poetry of our natures was entirely frozen out. Even a board to make a door or case a window was of inestimable value. Flooring, not the best quality by a number of grades, sold for \$50 per thousand.

Thanks are due a Maine Yankee for introducing an improvement in our architecture. Sod houses made an appearance, and they were much better, being more economical. Here we lived, deprived of every luxury and most of the comforts and necessities of life, trying to be happy and keep homesickness away, which would occasionally trouble us notwithstanding all efforts to prevent it.

We were, so to speak, at the jumping-off place, as another leap would have landed us among the savages. We depended wholly upon Redwood Falls for everything we had, and that a poor trading place, indeed. A spool of thread, a sheet of note paper, a pound of tea or sugar, had to be hauled fifty miles. One of our great blessings was our postoffice with a weekly mail. By the way, the first postoffice in this county was a gigantic affair! It required but one box, fastened with a huge padlock, to prevent mail robbery.

<sup>12</sup>The coming of these men had much to do with the future growth of Lyon county. On the first day of May, 1869, the following named ten men set out from Olmsted county, Minnesota, in search of new homes: C. H. Whitney, C. H. Upton, E. G. Bascomb, T. S. Eastman, V. Eastman, W. S. Eastman, O. A. Hawes, R. Waterman, Moses Fifield and Mendell Fifield. They traveled with four covered wagons and had besides a saddle horse. They spent several weeks viewing the country around St. Cloud, Benson and Hutchinson, and not liking the looks of the country turned to the southwest. They arrived in St. Peter and there Abner Tibbets, register of the United States land office, advised them to go to the country which is now Lyon county.

The party made the trip by way of Redwood Falls and arrived at the Lynd settlement on June 9, where they were welcomed by A. W. Muzzy. The next day was spent in rest at D. M. Taylor's store. On the eleventh three parties were formed to visit as many different parts of the surrounding country: one to the Rock Lake country, one to the head of Three-Mile creek, west of Lynd, and the third down the Redwood. The next day other prospecting trips were made.

C. H. Whitney went out on a scout and covered the north part of the county. He followed an Indian trail down the Redwood to the point called by the

Indians the Big Bend—the present site of the city of Marshall. There he struck the Lac qui Parle trail and followed it to about where Minneota is now situated. Thence he proceeded east until he came to another trail between Minnesota Falls and the Big Bend, followed that trail to the Big Bend, and then struck across country to Lake Marshall. At that point he found another Indian trail leading to the Cottonwood river and Lake Shetek.

After resting at Lynd on the thirteenth and canvassing the situation, all members of the party decided to take claims and made their selections in Lake Marshall, Lynd and Lyons townships. The fourteenth was spent in breaking land on their claims, some of the party also breaking on the northwest quarter of section 4, Lake Marshall township, to hold the claim for Mrs. Ursula Stone, a soldier's widow and the son-in-law of C. H. Upton.

The entire party set out on June 15 for the return home and made their filings at the land office on June 18. The Eastmans returned in the fall, erected a log cabin, and spent the winter in their new home; the others spent the winter in their old homes and all returned in 1870. Mr. Whitney did "missionary" work in Wisconsin that winter and as a result the population of Lyon county was added to in 1870.



## CHAPTER III.

### COUNTY AND TOWNSHIP ORGANIZATION—1869-1883.

HAD a person been born in the territory now embraced within the boundaries of Lyon county in the year 1800 and lived in the place of his birth until seventy years of age, he would have lived successively under the governments of Spain, France and the United States; would have been a resident successively of the territories of Louisiana, Missouri, Michigan, Wisconsin, Iowa and Minnesota and of the state of Minnesota; and at one time and another would have been under the jurisdiction of the counties of Waubashaw, Blue Earth, Brown, Redwood and Lyon in Minnesota. In other words, Lyon county has formed a part of those countries, territories and counties since first the flight of years began.

This mythical native of Lyon county would also have been decidedly under the jurisdiction of the Sioux Indians until a man grown, for white men had only nominal claim to the territory until the land was ceded to the United States by treaty in 1851. Before taking up the story of the creation of Lyon county, I shall here break into the chronological order of events long enough to trace this matter of sovereignty.

Our county formed a small part of the New World possessions claimed by France by right of discovery and ex-

ploration. In 1763, humbled by wars in Europe and America, France was forced to relinquish her province known as Louisiana, and all her possessions west of the Mississippi river were ceded to Spain in that year. Amid the exigencies of European wars Spain, in the year 1800, ceded Louisiana back to France, which was then under the rule of Napoleon Bonaparte. On April 30, 1803, negotiations were completed for the purchase of Louisiana by the United States for fifteen million dollars. On that date the future Lyon county became a part of the United States.

Soon after the United States secured possession, in 1805, that part of the mammoth territory of Louisiana which had been called Upper Louisiana was organized into Missouri Territory, and had our county then had inhabitants they would have been under the government of Missouri. Missouri was admitted as a state in 1820, and for several years thereafter the country beyond its northern boundaries, comprising what is now Iowa and all of Minnesota west of the Mississippi river, was without organized government. But in 1834 Congress attached this great expanse of territory to Michigan Territory. Two years later Wisconsin Territory was formed, comprising all of Michigan west of Lake

Michigan, and for the next two years we were a part of that territory.

Congress did a lot of enacting and boundary changing before it got Lyon county where it belonged. We became a part of Iowa Territory when it was created in 1838, because we were included in "all that part of the [then] present Territory of Wisconsin which lies west of the Mississippi river and west of a line drawn due north from the headwaters or sources of the Mississippi to the territorial line." Lyon county was a part of Iowa Territory until Iowa became a state in 1846. During that time settlers began to locate in portions of what later became Minnesota, and they were put under the jurisdiction of Clayton county, Iowa.<sup>1</sup> By the admission of Iowa to the Union the country west of the Mississippi became a "no man's land": it was a part of no territory or state. That condition existed until Minnesota Territory was created in 1849.

When the first Legislature convened after the organization of Minnesota Territory in 1849 it divided Minnesota into nine counties, named as follows: Washington, Ramsey, Benton, Itaska, Pembina, Mahkahto, Wahnahia, Dahkotah and Waubashaw.<sup>2</sup> The last named occupied all of Southern Minnesota, extended from the Mississippi river to the Missouri river, and its northern boundary was an east and west line that passed about through the center of the present Yellow Medicine county.

The future Lyon county remained a part of Waubashaw county until March 5, 1853, when there was a readjustment and Blue Earth county came into exist-

ence. The boundaries of the latter were described as follows: "So much of the territory lying south of the Minnesota river as remains of Waubashaw and Dahkotah counties undivided by this act." As the boundaries of the two older counties as defined by the act were very indefinite, it is impossible to state exactly what the dimensions of Blue Earth county were. It is known, however, that it included all of Southwestern Minnesota and extended into the present state of South Dakota.

For two years the unknown Lyon county country remained a part of Blue Earth county, and then came another change. By an act approved February 20, 1855, the county of Blue Earth was reduced to its present boundaries, Faribault county was created with the boundaries it now has (except that it extended one township farther west than now), and the new county of Brown came into existence. Brown county included all of Minnesota south of the Minnesota river and west of a line drawn south from the western boundary of the present day Blue Earth county. It also included a vast stretch of country in what is now South Dakota but that was taken off when Minnesota's boundaries were made as at present constituted upon admission to the Union in 1858.

The next change we have to record affecting Lyon county<sup>3</sup> was made in 1865, when Redwood county was formed, embracing (besides two townships in the present Brown county) the present counties of Redwood, Lyon, Lincoln, Yellow Medicine and Lac qui Parle. Redwood county was so constituted

<sup>1</sup>Henry H. Sibley, who lived at Mendota, was a justice of the peace of that county. The county seat was two hundred fifty miles distant, and his jurisdiction extended over a region of country "as large as the Empire of France."

<sup>2</sup>The boundaries of these counties are shown on the accompanying map.

<sup>3</sup>By act of March 23, 1857, there were severed from Brown county the following: Martin, Jackson, Cottonwood, Nobles, Murray, Rock and Pipestone, besides some in the South Dakota territory.



### MINNESOTA TERRITORY

From a Map Published in 1850. The Nine Original Counties of the Territory Are Shown.



until the present Lyon and Lincoln counties were formed into Lyon county in 1869.<sup>4</sup>

There was only a handful of residents in the proposed county in the early days of 1869, but they were an ambitious lot. They maintained that they had brought the star of empire west with them and that they ought to have the handling of its destinies. They asked the Legislature to take the necessary action to set off the western part of Redwood county into a new political division.

The bill for the creation of Lyon county, embracing the present counties of Lyon and Lincoln, was introduced by Senator Charles T. Brown, passed the Legislature, and was approved by Governor William R. Marshall on March 2, 1869.<sup>5</sup> It provided that the act should not become operative, however, until it had been approved by a majority vote of the electors of Redwood county at the general election of November, 1869. The vote was favorable and Lyon county was ready to take up the burdens of organization. The county was named in honor of General Nathaniel Lyon, of the United States army, who met death at the battle of Springfield in June, 1861.

Very soon after the act became operative as a result of the election, Governor Marshall appointed a few

county officers and vested them with power to begin county government. It was proposed to organize in December, 1869, but owing to the absence of two of the commissioners it had to be postponed, and the machinery of county government was not set in motion until August 12, 1870.<sup>6</sup> At that time the first meeting of the Board of County Commissioners was held at the home of Luman Ticknor, in Upper Lynd.

The first act of the board was the selection of a county seat, the first entry in the journal reading as follows:

State of Minnesota, County of Lyon—ss. Be it known that at a session of the Board of County Commissioners of Lyon county, held at the house of L. Ticknor, in said county, on the twelfth day of August, 1870, the seat of said county was settled and established on the southeast quarter of section thirty-three (33) in township one hundred and eleven (111) of range forty-two (42). [Signed] A. W. Muzzy, Levi S. Kiel, County Commissioners. Attest: E. Lamb, Auditor.

For nearly two years Upper Lynd was the seat of government of Lyon county. Then, although no official action was taken to that effect, the county business was transacted at Lower Lynd. That remained the seat of government until it was moved to Marshall in January, 1874, as the result of the election of November, 1873.<sup>7</sup>

At the time of the organization of the county the population was small and

<sup>4</sup>Redwood county lost Yellow Medicine and Lac qui Parle by act of March 6, 1871.

<sup>5</sup>The act reads as follows:

"An act to define the boundary lines of Lyon county and attach the same to Redwood county for judicial purposes.

"Section 1. The boundary line of Lyon county is hereby established and hereafter shall be as follows: Beginning at the southeast corner of township one hundred and nine (109), range forty (40), thence due north to the northeast corner of township one hundred and thirteen (113), range forty (40), west of the fifth principal meridian, thence west to the boundary line of the state of Minnesota, thence south on the boundary line of the state to the township line between townships one hundred and eight (108) and one hundred and nine (109), thence east on said township line to the place of beginning.

"Sec. 2. At the time of giving notice of the next general election, it shall be the duty of the officers of the county of Redwood, as required by law, to give notice of such election, to give notice in like manner that at said election a vote will be taken on the question

of changing the boundary lines of Redwood county in accordance with the provisions of this act. At said election the voters of said county of Redwood in favor of the change proposed by this act shall have distinctly written or printed or partly written or printed on their ballots, 'For change of boundary lines of Redwood county in favor of Lyon county,' and returns thereof shall be made to the same office by the judges of election of the several townships and by the auditor of said Redwood county as upon votes for state officers.

"Sec. 3. The county of Lyon is hereby attached for judicial purposes to the county of Redwood.

"Sec. 4. The foregoing provisions of this act shall take effect and be in force from and after the ratification and adoption of the proposed change by a majority of the voters of Redwood county.

"Sec. 5. All acts and parts of acts inconsistent with this act are hereby repealed.

"Approved March 2, 1869."

<sup>6</sup>For a more detailed account of the organization see chapter 8.

<sup>7</sup>The meeting places of the Board of County Com-

the law-making body did not see fit to provide for township government at once. Instead, the county was divided into five election precincts, in each of which were justices of the peace and constables, appointed by the County Board. These local officers officiated until the first township was organized early in 1872. The last township did not begin local government until 1883. The several townships were officially created in the following order, but the organization in all cases did not immediately follow: Lake Marshall, Lynd, Lyons, Fairview, Nordland, Grandview, Lucas, Eidsvold, Monroe, Amiret, West-erheim, Vallers, Custer, Clifton, Stanley, Sodus, Rock Lake, Island Lake, Shelburne and Coon Creek.

#### LAKE MARSHALL.

Although other parts of the county were settled earlier, there had been rapid settlement in Lake Marshall township in 1870 and 1871, and that was the first political division to be granted township government. The Board of County Commissioners passed the necessary resolution on January 2, 1872, and on March 8 the organization was perfected. The first town meeting was held at the home of C. H. Whitney on the southeast quarter of section 4, where later was built the city of Marshall.

The first officers of the precinct, chosen at the time of the first town

meeting, were as follows: Oren Drake, chairman; C. T. Bellingham and Noble Cuyle, supervisors; C. H. Whitney, clerk; O. A. Drake, treasurer; S. M. Taylor, assessor; W. H. Langdon and C. H. Whitney, justices of the peace; C. H. Upton and O. A. Drake, constables.

Lake Marshall township was named after the lake of the same name, and the lake was named in honor of Governor William R. Marshall.<sup>8</sup>

Following is a list of those who received title to government lands in Lake Marshall township, under the homestead and timber culture acts, and the number of the section (in parentheses) on which the claim was located:<sup>9</sup>

James Armstrong (6), John M. Burke (36), Andrew J. Ham (22), Joanna Ham (22), William G. Hunter (12), Lorenzo D. Lewis (28), Marietta Martin (14), Milo B. Morse (4-6), Alex S. Nobles (32), C. H. Richardson (28), Ursula S. Stone (4), J. B. Smith (18), Joseph Sanders (8), M. F. Templeton (24), John F. Wyman (10), George B. Wilmarth (32), Charles M. Wilcox (26), George B. Watkins (34), Alfred Loveless (20), Joseph K. Johnson (2), Aaron F. Templeton (24), Josiah Clark (32), Charles L. S. Bellingham (20), Salmon Webster (10), Charles M. Templeton (24), Henry F. Hoyt (2), Heirs M. R. Templeton (24), George R. Welch (10), George G. Orr (30), Andrew Erickson (14), Samuel Benjamin (30), Asahel A. Hunter (14), James Andrew (6), Moses D. Skillings (24), William M. Pierce (2), Charles H. Upton (4), Frank Y. Hoffstott (10), Samuel W. Orr (30), Orson A. Drake (30), Oren Drake (30), Jabez W. Pike (2), Frank A. Lamphere (22), Daniel Minnick (18), William C. French (18), Peter Van Zant (20), Robert Minnick (32), Allen O. Underhill (28), Steward Groesbeck (28), Seth W. Taylor (28), Christian Wunderlich (20), Peter F. Wise (34), Edward Jones (34), Charles H. White (22), Milton C. Niles (28), Charles M. Baction (28),

missioners prior to the removal to Marshall, as recorded in the commissioners' journal, were as follows:

August 12, 1870—House of L. Ticknor.  
October 8, 1870—Lynd.  
October 14, 1870—Wright school house.  
January 3, 1871—House of E. Lamb.  
March 15 and April 7, 1871—Store of G. W. Whitney.  
May 16, 1871—Store of G. W. Whitney, adjourned to the church.  
September 19, 1871—Lynd.  
January 2, 1872—Log school house near Lynd post-office.  
March 29 and April 30, 1872—Hall of Smith & Ellis at Lynd.  
June 1, 1872, to May 9, 1873—Kiel & Morgan's hall.  
June 17, 1873—Kiel's hotel.  
September 24, 1873—Lynd.  
January 20, 1874—Office of J. W. Blake, Marshall.

<sup>8</sup>The first birth in Lake Marshall township was that of Mary Langdon, daughter of Henry and Zilpha Langdon, who was born in June, 1870; the second birth was that of Fannie Whitney, daughter of C. H. and Mary Whitney, and occurred November 24, 1870. The first marriage was that of Oren Drake and Mrs. U. S. Stone and was performed September 4, 1872, by Rev. Ransom Wait. The first death was that of a daughter of James Armstrong; she died of scarlet fever October 5, 1871.

<sup>9</sup>As taken from the records in the office of the register of deeds. The names in this list and those of the other townships include only those who had homestead and timber claims, and only the names of those appear who received title to the lands.

William Cashman (18), William R. Loveless (20), Eugene B. Langdon (8).<sup>10</sup>

#### LYND.

Lynd township, named in honor of James W. Lynd, the trader who in an early day had a post within the township, was declared an organized township by the Board of County Commissioners on September 4, 1872. Officers were not selected at that time, however, and the organization was not perfected until a year later. The first officers of the precinct were appointed by the County Board on January 9, 1873, and were as follows: Jacob Rouse, chairman; A. R. Cummins and John E. Starks, supervisors; N. Davis, clerk; George E. Cummins, treasurer.<sup>11</sup>

Titles to government land were granted in Lynd township as follows:

George M. Boston (19), E. W. Barton (8), Lewis E. Bates (4), M. V. Davidson (33), O. C. Gregg (30), Cornelius Hall (33), Oscar A. Hawes (12), Clark S. Johnson (10), Levi S. Kiel (28), Edgar Langdon (32), George W. Marcyes (27), Hiram A. Marcyes (14), Hiram R. Marcyes (23), George Pierce (34), Arthur Ransom (34), David Steifel (28), John E. Starks (4), A. C. Tucker (18), Melville A. Tucker (18), Daniel M. Taylor (34), Hiram G. Ward (30), Horace M. Workman (4), J. W. Williams (8), George W. Herrick (18), Robert M. Addison (24), Vernon M. Smith (32), Eleazer Farnham (2), Philemon C. Farnham (2),

Peter W. Mullany (14), Leslie A. Gregg (30), A. L. Randall (24), James E. Leonard (10), Charles M. Shilliam (32), Charles G. Pearson (10), John N. Johnson (10), Lydia J. Pierce (34), Hiram Fellows (20), Christian Nelson (14), Warren S. Eastman (12), Josephus Myers (4), Harriet Perrin (26), Mary Jane Lasure (6), Edward Fezler (28), Orla B. Nash (14), Mark Christensen (14), Dewitt C. Pierce (28), James Cummins (22), George E. Cummins (22), George A. Wunderlich (20), Hugh Smith (26), James M. Locky (8), Jennie M. Rathmell (18), Jon Anderson (10), Colon Acheson (14), Heirs Oren Gregg (30), Allen D. Morgan (22), Charles Meloin (24), Letta Hute (24), Otto Weking (6), Horace N. Smith (26), Stephen B. Green (20), James A. Harris (8), Alva P. Wells (8).<sup>12</sup>

#### LYONS.

The next town created was Lyons,<sup>13</sup> which doubtless derived its name from the same source as that of the county, namely, General Nathaniel Lyon. It was officially declared an organized township on March 18, 1873, and given the name it still bears. At the first town election, held April 1, 1873, the following first officers were chosen: Gordon Watson, chairman; C. L. Van Fleet and J. C. Buell, supervisors; Henry Mussler, clerk; C. A. Wright, treasurer; Charles Hildreth, assessor; J. W. Hoagland and Edmund Lamb, justices of the peace; Charles E. Goodell and Amasa Crosby, constables.<sup>14</sup> Land

<sup>10</sup>Farmers who resided in Lake Marshall Township in 1884, according to C. F. Case's History of Lyon County, were as follows: J. W. Pike, Henry F. Hoyt, J. K. Johnson, George Cook, J. B. Drew, W. Hyde, R. Spates, R. F. Webster, James Andrew, George Link, B. Link, J. Ward, Henry Freese, J. Anderson, Noble Cuyle, T. King, J. Scott, J. W. Blake, J. S. Dewey, S. Webster, T. Walker, W. Wirt, W. G. Hunter, C. H. Richardson, O. M. Fuller, A. Erickson, P. Quigley, John Berry, Daniel Minnick, W. Cushman, J. Smith, B. J. Heagle, M. Pettibone, C. T. Bellingham, Charles Bellingham, Andrew Ham, C. Skillings, C. M. Templeton, A. F. Templeton, J. M. Burke, C. H. White, L. D. Lewis, M. C. Niles, George Orr, J. Clark, F. S. Wetherbee, E. Brotherton, John Middleton and G. R. Watkins.

<sup>11</sup>The first child born in Lynd township was a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Ransom, born in November, 1868; the second child was Harry Lynd Cummins, son of George E. Cummins, born in 1869. The first death was that of Mrs. Bowers, which occurred April 20, 1868. The first marriage, that of W. H. Langdon to Zilpha Cummins, was performed in 1868 by Rev. C. F. Wright; the second was that of A. W. McGandy to Charlotte Buell in 1871. The first school, supported by subscription, was taught in Lynd's trading post building in the spring of 1869 by Lydia Cummins. The first church services were held in September, 1867, and the first church was organized in 1868.

<sup>12</sup>The following named farmers resided in Lynd township in 1884: J. Goodwin, P. B. Fezler, C. Farnham, P. C. Farnham, J. Peterson, Josephus Myers, R. Spates, F. Peterson, W. Williams, James Locky, A. P. Wells, C. S. Foster, A. Mellenthin, F. Mellenthin, C. Morton, Jon Anderson, Larabee & Sons, William Acheson, Otto Anderson, Charles Pearson, O. A. Hawes, W. S. Eastman, I. V. Eastman, Andrew Nelson, Colon Acheson, Christian Nelson, Orla Nash, W. Wunderlich, Peter Mullany, H. Rolph, Philip Snyder, A. C. Tucker, H. Rathmell, H. Tucker, George A. Wunderlich, L. E. Fellows, Alex. Burr, W. Sykes, B. Sykes, James Cummins, L. Marcyes, George Link, B. F. Link, A. L. Randall, B. Heath, C. E. Rice, L. Gilman, Z. O. Titus, H. Smith, W. L. Watson, C. E. Rice, Levi S. Kiel, S. Van Alstine, A. R. Cummins, D. C. Pierce, J. Dryden, C. M. Damuth, O. Gregg, O. C. Gregg, H. G. Ward, L. A. Gregg, Charles Shilliam, W. H. Langdon, V. M. Smith, Jacob Rouse and Mrs. Pierce.

<sup>13</sup>On October 22, 1872, Lake Benton township, comprising a tract of territory in the southeast part of the present Lincoln county, was created by the County Board.

<sup>14</sup>The first child born in Lyons township was Fred Adams, born in 1870. The first school was taught by Florence Downie in 1873. Religious services were first held in the township by Rev. Ransom Wait on November 6, 1870, and the first church society was formed in September, 1873.

titles were granted to the following in Lyons township:

W. C. Adams (5), James Burnes (26), Moses G. Fifield (10), Joseph Fifield (10), A. A. Fifield (10), Edward P. Gage (22), James T. Moon (34), Hugh William Neil (26), John D. Soper (22), George H. Thurston (24), C. L. Van Fleet (32), Roland Weeks (28), Charles A. Wright (12), William Whitson (22), Mahlon S. Faucett (24), Ransom Wait (14), Thomas S. Downie (12), Charles W. Hicks (2), John L. Jones (28), Evan L. Jones (34), Albert C. Dresser (28), James F. Hoagland (22), Richard R. Roberts (20), Fred C. Hicks (12), William M. Riddell (26), Elisha Foster (30), Walter Carlaw (32), Leander P. Knapp (30), Mary L. Gould (14), Isaac Harvey (20), Richard Tuper (24), Dennis Leary (6), Charles S. Riley (14), Sophia Hicks (2), John J. Hicks (2), Gordon Watson (2), Jeremiah Van Schaick (30), James M. Millard (26), Ludwig Mitzner (34), Dennis N. Fellon (18), Lois E. Coleman (10), Almond C. Dann (20), Charles E. Goodell (14), Reuben Beazley (6), Louis Crane (4), Martha M. Day (6), Samuel W. Galbraith (28), William Nelson Jones (18), Henry Mussler (20), Thomas A. Graham (34), August Rienke (18), Manley M. Curtis (12), Evan C. Jones (8), Ephraim Skyhawk (18), Warren Erwin Austin (24), Charles V. Hicks (2), Heirs Edward C. Bot (6), Elisha B. Downie (12), Henry L. Pierce (4), Henry Schaeffer (34), Anthony Megandy (4), Edmund Lamb (4), Orla B. Nash (22), Owen M. Owens (8), Martin V. Davidson (4), Luman Ticknor (8), Lars P. Bergman (18).<sup>15</sup>

#### FAIRVIEW.

Fairview and Lyons townships may be classed as twins, for they were granted the rights of township government on the same day and perfected their organizations on the same day. The beautiful prairie township of Fairview was appropriately named. In the early days, with naught to interrupt the view, it was a fair sight to look upon. There was spread out a landscape of loveliness, and any other name for the

township would have been a misnomer.

Fairview township was created March 18, 1873, and the first town meeting was held at the home of John W. Elliott, on section 34, on the first day of April of the same year. At that time the following officers were chosen: Harmon Lovelace, chairman; John W. Elliott and C. M. Johnson, supervisors; John Buchanan, clerk; Owen Marron, treasurer; B. C. Emery, assessor; Harmon Lovelace and John Buchanan, justices of the peace; W. S. Reynolds and A. Williams, constables.<sup>16</sup>

The government issued patents to land in Fairview township to the following:

Miner Atherton (32), Romain C. Beech (6), Charles A. Edwards (26), B. C. Emery (14), I. P. Farrington (26), John L. Gee (6), Daniel P. Hance (24), Reuben Henshaw (22), Anne Hanlon (10), Besnasel Hanlon (10), John Hanlon (18), Harmon Lovelace (20), David H. Neely (4), William S. Reynolds (34), George Spaulding (28), John Shull (4), Luman Ticknor (30), Daniel F. Weymouth (2), Alvin Fort (12), William D. Lovelace (24), Thomas Lindsay (12), Polk Williams (8), Frank Constant (22), Jasper W. Dickey (20), Seth Johnson (30), Edward C. Pierce (28), John A. Brown (22), Cornelius Meehan (10), Daniel Thomas (30), David D. Forbes (14), Martha Meacham (8), E. Alfred Edwards (4), George L. D. Weymouth (2), William C. Robinson (10), Harvey G. Howard (20), George M. Robinson (10), Richard Blake (18), John Cummings (26), Richard Yates (28), Margaret Hanlon (18), Walter Wakeman (20), Maudavill Potter (28), Marcellus F. Murphy (4), Martin V. Davidson (24), John H. Buchanan (32), Daniel M. Taylor (30), Allen Smith (6), Eben B. Jewett (32), Hamilton Smith (18), John W. Elliott (34), Zenas Rank (24), Isaac Lindsey (14), Lewis Lavake (14), Delia M. Wasson (22), Frank D. Wasson (22), Eliza Wasson (22), Heirs Charles Weymouth (2), Homer Robinson (26), George F. LeBeau (6).<sup>17</sup>

was born April 2, 1871. Walter Woodruff and Julia Lovelace were the first in the township to marry. The first death was that of Mary Gibbs, mother of Henry Gibbs; she died in December, 1871, at the age of ninety years. School was first taught in the township by Ada Kennedy in 1874; the first school room was a granary belonging to Thomas Lindsay. The first religious services were conducted by Rev. George Spaulding at his home in 1873.

<sup>15</sup>The following farmers lived in Lyons township in 1884: B. F. Bates, C. V. Hicks, J. J. Hicks, Gordon Watson, W. C. Adams, H. L. Pierce, C. E. Rice, Mrs. Day, Dennis Leary, Reuben Beasley, Joseph Fifield, M. G. Fifield, F. R. Lindsey, E. B. Downie, F. C. Hicks, T. S. Downie, M. M. Curtis, Charles E. Goodell, J. M. Millard, Ransom Wait, C. S. Riley, D. N. Fellon, R. Roberts, A. C. Dann, I. N. Harvey, R. D. Soper, D. Soper, J. W. Hoagland, J. F. Hoagland, James Murison, J. Ingram, G. H. Thurston, James Burns, W. N. Riddell, Robert Riddell, S. W. Galbraith, L. Jones, C. E. Dresser, C. C. Wagner, D. T. Fellon, Jeremiah Van Schaick, L. P. Knapp, Walter Carlaw, C. L. Van Fleet, T. A. Graham, Ludwig Mitzner, E. L. Jones, E. Schmitz, J. Mitzner and Mr. Teufel.

<sup>16</sup>The first child born in Fairview was Walter Reynolds, son of William and Maria Reynolds, who

<sup>17</sup>The following were heads of families residing in Fairview in 1884: D. Alexander, D. F. Weymouth, M. P. Jewett, Cox Brothers, H. Edwards, R. C. Beech, J. L. Gee, C. L. Wiley, Philip Rue, A. Paul, Neill, Oren Marron, Martha Meacham, A. Hanlon, Besnasel Hanlon, G. M. Robinson, W. C. Robinson, Rev. Graves, O. F. Walter, Isaac Lindsey, Alex. Forbes, D. D. Forbes, Whitney & Keith, F. J. Parker, John

## NORDLAND.

Almost without exception, the township of Nordland was settled by Norwegians and they bestowed upon it the name of a province in their native land. Nordland township was created by the Board of County Commissioners May 9, 1873, and soon thereafter the first town meeting was held at the home of T. H. Flom on section 14.

The initial officers of Nordland were as follows: Ole O. Groff, chairman; Ole O. Rear and Nils Anderson, supervisors; Frederick Holritz, clerk; A. O. Strand, treasurer; T. O. Loftsgaarden, assessor; J. O. Fangen and Frederick Holritz, justices of the peace; Thrond Helverson and W. K. Hovden, constables.

The following became owners of land in Nordland by virtue of the homestead and timber culture acts:

Charles Anderson (18), Fred Holritz (10), Andrew Halversen (28), Christopher K. Iverson (20), Tobias Iverson (30), Lars J. Jerpak (18), Erick Knudson (22), Nels B. Nelson (8), Gunder Olson (8), Robert Quiggle (2), Mary Tollef (26), Halvor A. Verse (12), William K. Hovden (2), Niels Gregersen (30), Arent Larsen (12), Niels N. Myre (14), Ole Olsen (12), Samuel Hansen (20), John Larsen (34), Theodore Halverson (28), Halvor Olsen Skogen (26), Ole O. Barisnens (24), Ole Sieverson (14), Osten Anderson Rye (34), Gregar Amundsen (22), Simon Sivertson (4), John Johnson Hoff (4), Lewis B. Leland (28), Christian Johnsen (8), Ole Sheldrud (24), Ole O. Nordby (22), Seaver G. Dalen (6), Ole O. Skaar (18), Sever L. Teigland (10), Nels Halverson (28), Tobias Iverson (30), Syvert A. Hazleberg (30), Sturlaugur Gilbertson (8), Ole O. Rear (12), John Josephson (4), Martin Bradison (32), Ole A. Lien (28), John O'Brien (4), Josef Jonssen (30), Thor Rye (8), Ole Ladel

Hanlon, M. Hanlon, Hamilton Smith, J. A. Hunter, Richard Blake, J. W. Dickey, H. G. Howard, Kinney, W. P. Thayer, L. K. Thayer, J. A. Brown, Reuben Henshaw, F. D. Wasson, W. D. Lovelace, D. T. Hance, John Cummings, James Lawrence, E. C. Pierce, M. Potter, Rev. George Spaulding, A. C. Forbes, A. Baldwin, Seth Johnson, Daniel Thomas, Luman Ticknor, E. B. Jewett, E. A. Edwards, Mrs. Coleman, J. W. Elliott, W. S. Reynolds and E. O. Barnard.

<sup>18</sup>During the next ten years after its organization the growth of Nordland was slow and in 1884 the only heads of families living in the precinct were Halver Olson, J. B. Johnson, Thomas Olson, W. K. Hovden, Robert Culshaw, John Ohnn, Sven Jeremiasen, John J. Hoff, S. Severson, John Josephson, E. C. Gatzke, S. G. Dalen, Sturlaugur Gilbertson, Nels Nelson, Chris Johnson, Teeta Toff, A. Strand, Sever Terigland, H.

(24), Paul B. Gatzke (6), Thideman Jensen (24), Leif Stenerson (30), John B. Johnson (32), Torjus H. Flom (14), Frank Ramberg (24), Halvor H. Bakken (26), Peter Larson (26), Gilbert T. Larsen (24), Heirs Benjamin Johnsen (32), John McClusky (20), Peter Johan Jennen (14), Robert Hanson (10), Benjamin Johnson (32), Gregar Stenerson (24), John Gillund (22), Frank Dobrinski (6), Thomas Olson (2), Andreas J. Olsen (10), Brede Bredeson (32), Sven H. Jeremiasen (4), Thomas McClusky (10), Tollef Olson Festad (10).<sup>19</sup>

## GRANDVIEW.

The topographical features supplied the name for Grandview, the name being selected when the township was created July 21, 1873. On September 23 of the same year the County Board authorized a change in name to Warrington, but the change was not made.

The township was organized in August, 1873, when the first town meeting was held at the home of Jacob Thomas. The first officers, selected at that time, were as follows: T. J. Barber, chairman; S. B. Green and J. M. Collins, supervisors; A. L. Baldwin, clerk; J. M. English, treasurer; George Chamberlain, assessor; Orlando McQuestion and H. B. Loomis, justices of the peace; G. A. Wirt and C. P. Cotterell, constables.<sup>19</sup>

Government land patents were granted to the following in Grandview:

Henry W. Burlingame (4), Frank D. Baldwin (26), Edward Goodman (10), Charles E. Goodell (34), James P. Greenslitt (4), Stephen B. Green (22), J. A. Goodrich (12), Alexander Graham (14), Harrison A. Irish (14), Charles J. Morse (24), Martin M. Marshall (28), William Markell (10), John S. Pears (24), Janet Robertson (24), Wells I. Smith (20), J. M. Vaughn (8), George A. Wirt (22), Genierus Johnson (6), Christian Lee

Verpe, Ole Rear, Ole Groff, Arne Larson, Ole Bjerska, N. T. Dahl, T. H. Flom, A. Larson, Nels Myre, Ole Severson, Charles Anderson, Lars Jerpak, Aslag Haug, Ole Stear, Samuel Hanson, Frederick Holritz, Ole Myrick, K. Melby, Ole Nordby, J. G. Gillund, Gregar Amundsen, Thideman Jensen, G. Stenerson, Ole Ladel, F. Rumberg, Ole S. Kgelud, Nels Halverson, Andrew Halverson, Albert Halverson, Louis Leland, S. Anderson, T. Tobias, M. Bredeson, B. Johnson, Ole Borsnes, L. Est and John Larson.

<sup>19</sup>Lilly McQuestion, the first child born in Grandview, was born December 16, 1871, the daughter of Orlando McQuestion. The first death was a child of Joseph Chamberlain. The first school was taught by Sarah Constant in 1876. The first religious services were conducted by Rev. W. S. Williams.

(18), Alberto L. Baldwin (22), Selden Coleman (28), William T. Maxson (20-28), Charles P. Cotterell (22), Bergit S. Jacobson (6), Ransom F. Lathe (28), John G. Cook (34), William L. Goodrich (12), Ambrose Amundson (8), Jacob Thomas (22), Anthon J. Ledel (30), Orlando McQuestion (34), John O. Ranum (30), Rufus F. Southworth (2), Hugh Chalmers (2), Lewis Story (32), Johan Christ Nielson (30), Thomas J. Barber (22), Amasa A. Farmer (20), Georgianna M. Collins (14), John R. Phelps (32), John Sheldrud (30), Harrison B. Loomis (4), Fannie M. Collins (10), Floyd H. Deland (2), Leo DeCock (8), Miles W. Fuller (32), Martin Ellefson (6), Lewis E. Bates (28), Charles DeVos (4), Edward A. Deland (12), Edward Fezler (28), Camille Claey's (8), Sigfred Ledel (18), Franklin H. Goodrich (12), James S. Rauger (30), Ole Ingebretson Rotam (6), William Bot (14), Anders H. Opdahl (6), Chester Andrews (26), James M. English (26), William J. Brull (34), Edwin M. English (24), George W. Carpenter (24).<sup>20</sup>

#### LUCAS.

The northeast corner township was officially designated an organized township July 21, 1873, under the name of Canton, and it was more than a year later when the name Lucas was bestowed upon it.<sup>21</sup> The organization was perfected August 5, 1873.

The first officers of the township were as follows: James Wardrop, chairman; O. H. Dahl and John Moe, supervisors; R. H. Price, clerk; N. T. Dahl, treasurer and assessor; T. S. Norgaard and P. H. Dahl, justices of the peace; R. J. Ben-

jamin and George Anderson, constables.<sup>22</sup>

The following were settlers of Lucas who received their land from the government:

George Anderson (8), Otto Anderson (2), Squire J. Carr (24), Robert Cummings (32), Peter H. Dahl (4), P. A. Eitland (18), James Galbraith (30), Ann Lines (24), Lewis B. Nichols (20), George Russell (34), William H. Slater (4), Robert Chalmers (30), John McLennan (32), Thomas Bell (12), Joseph Gray (28), Peder Eliason (10), Christopher Peterson (22), John Boniman (30), John H. Mielke (22), James Wardrop (12), Christ H. Dahl (8), Josiah Durham (2), Rufus H. Price (2), Gabriel Anderson (6), Torjus S. Norgaard (4), Edward T. Tonnessen Hamre (10-8), Hans P. Dahl (6), Allend Christianson (10), Endre Endreson (8), Clinton J. Price (14), Carl Kartowitz (26), James C. Townsend (30), Frederick Strohschaen (12), John Krog (22), Ole H. Hatlestad (18), Daniel R. Burdett (20), Charles S. Lovelace (20), Tollef O. Legvold (10), William Stewart (32), James Cruickshank (34), John Johnsen Nesdal (14), Wilhelm Weinkauf (24), Iver Nelson (2), Mikkle Nelson (6), Thomas Chalmers (32), Neils Neilson (6), Sivert O. Barsted (20), Christian Rust (34).<sup>23</sup>

#### EIDSVOLD.

Nineteen residents of the northwest corner township petitioned for township government and the County Board took the requested action September 2, 1873. The township was created and organized with the name Upper Yellow Medicine, but the name was later changed to Eidsvold.

chosen October 11, 1874, and as no other township had a prior right the name was permanently established.

<sup>22</sup>The first child born in Lucas was Albert Erwin, born February 27, 1872. The first death was a son of John Krog, who died in the winter of 1873. The first marriage was that of D. R. Burdette to Alice M. Price and occurred July 16, 1873. The first school was taught by Ella Williams in 1873 in a small building erected by R. H. Price on section 2. The first religious services were conducted by Rev. Joseph Williams, of the United Brethren Society.

<sup>23</sup>In 1884 the residents of Lucas township were as follows: R. H. Price, Iver Nelson, M. Nelson, E. S. Reishus, Aarrestad Brothers, L. P. Aaberg, Gabriel Anderson, J. A. H. Dahl, N. Rosvold, M. Rosvold, J. H. Anderson, C. H. Dahl, A. Barstad, A. Anderson, Mr. Conrad, Peder Eliason, E. T. Hamre, Allend Christianson, Frederick Strohschaen, James Wardrop, Thomas Bell, J. Johnson, A. Miro, A. Slette, J. Medboe, O. O. Reinholt, O. H. Hatlestad, M. T. Ness, H. J. Meilke, John Krog, J. A. Smith, Christopher Peterson, J. C. Lines, J. J. Hunziker, C. Kartowitz, F. G. Strohschaen, Jr., J. McDonald, J. C. Gray, James Galbraith, John Boniman, Robert Chalmers, J. C. Townsend, John D. Smith, Robert Cummings, William Stewart, John McLellan, Thomas Chalmers, James Cruickshank, James Robertson, George Russell and P. Schlemmer.

<sup>20</sup>There were living in Grandview the following in 1884: Victor LeBeau, Hugh Chalmers, F. H. Deland, J. Cavanaugh, H. B. Loomis, Theodore Carron, C. Foulon, G. Verghote, John Ford, Martin Ellefson, G. A. Aal, B. Jacobson, Ole Rotam, Ambrose Amundson, J. M. Vaughn, R. L. Greensliitt, H. Maartens, Leo DeCock, David VanHee, H. Prince, B. F. Jellison, F. H. Goodrich, E. A. Deland, A. Paradis, W. S. Goodrich, Alexander Graham, Georgianna Collins, C. Messine, A. VanHee, S. VanHee, Christian Lee, Sigfred Ledel, J. Regnier, J. Lambert, A. A. Farmer, W. T. Maxson, L. E. Bates, Isaac Regnier, Charles Cotterell, S. B. Green, T. I. Barber, Jacob Thomas, A. L. Baldwin, J. M. English, G. W. Carpenter, E. Lord, Frank Baldwin, S. Coleman, J. Butson, Peter Schmitz, C. Schmitz, F. Laythe, John Sheldrud, John Nielson, A. J. Ladle, J. O. Ranum, J. Lambert, M. W. Fuller, Lewis Story, A. Pennston, William Goodell, J. G. Cook and Orlando McQuestion.

<sup>21</sup>Rulings of state auditors forbade two townships in the state to have the same name, and as a consequence the people of a new township frequently had to change the name. The people of Lucas were especially unfortunate in choosing a name that had not before been selected. The name Lishon was selected in place of Canton on March 17, 1874, and that in turn was changed to Moe on May 21, 1874. Lucas was

The first town meeting was held September 20, 1873, and the following were chosen the first officers: H. T. Oakland, chairman; Nels Torgerson and A. Amundson, supervisors; John Coleman, clerk; Swend Peterson, treasurer; O. B. Ringham, assessor; H. D. Frink, justice of the peace; O. H. Esping and G. Amundson, constables.<sup>24</sup>

The following homesteaders and tree claim claimants received title to real estate in Eidsvold:

Ambrose Amundsen (34), Lewis Anderson (28), William Brockway (20), John A. Coleman (28), W. M. Coleman (26), Swend Peterson (26), Ole Pederson (24), Ole B. Ringham (26), Jakob Steinmetz (22-12-18), William P. Tenney (18), Harvey D. Frink (26), John M. Hall (8), Knud Olson (10), Knud O. Dove (34), Freeborn N. Welch (18), William Mohr (30), Francis R. Adams (4), Aaron Conger (6), Knut A. Rye (22), Knud Helgeson (2), Amend Amundson (24), Knud K. Gigstad (34), George H. Welch (18), Hugh Bowden (12), Edwin E. Rumberg (34), Nels Torgeson (34), Charles Overland (14), John Olson Kaas (22), Knut S. Kraubek (14), Barnet Vosberg (6), Elling Knudsen Haugen (12), Walter P. Ruggles (4), Knud Knudtson (10), Ole A. Swennes (2), Farmer Crampton (8), Norman Webster (8), Bergven J. Hoff (32), Lewis P. Johnson (10), Isaac Olson (24), Thorvald Rye (12), Ignacy Gawareski (30), Ole H. Esping (12), Patrick Malone (14), John McCormick (20), Betsey J. Wallin (22), Knud Kjørness (24), Lawrence McDonald (28), Jens Alickson (32), Joseph Alickson (32), Kazimien Surdzinski (30), Hugh McNamara (4), Nels Anderson (10), Ellen Salmon (28), Maria Olson (32), Carrie E. Fodness (2), Engebret K. Kjørness (24), James W. Williams (20), Syvert Hanson (22), Heirs Frank Hinkley (8), Andrew Budniakowski (30), John S. Kosmalski (20), Gottlieb Kerlein (30), Reuben H. Clark (4).<sup>25</sup>

<sup>24</sup>Twin girls, born to Mr. and Mrs. Swend Peterson in 1871, were the first births in Eidsvold. A daughter of Ole Pederson, who died in 1872, was the first to die in the precinct. The first marriage was that of J. J. Wallin to Annie Olson and occurred October 24, 1874. The first public school was taught by O. H. Dahl in the railroad section house. Rev. J. Berg conducted the first religious services in the same building.

<sup>25</sup>The following were engaged in farming in Eidsvold township in 1884: O. A. Swennes, Knud Helgeson, K. Rodness, F. McMahon, W. P. Ruggles, F. R. Adams, Aaron Conger, Barnet Vosburg, J. Ahern, E. Hinkley, L. P. Johnson, K. Knudson, K. O. Bakken, Torger Stene, Thor Rye, Hugh Bowden, E. Knutson, Ole H. Esping, E. Severson, H. T. Oakland, K. Tvambeck, Patrick Malone, F. N. Welch, B. Agners, John McCormick, J. E. Kaas, J. Pennington, C. Hanson, Knut Rye, H. Rye, B. Wallin, K. E. Kjørness, E. K. Kjørness, Amend Amundson, Isaac Olson, G. Thompson, O. B. Ringham, H. H. Boe, J. Wilhelmus, W. Salmon, Lewis Anderson, Lawrence McDonald, Henry Carstens, A. Ratke, William Mohr, E. O'Brien, Nels Torgerson, K. O. Dove and Ole Feste.

## MONROE.

The county law-making body set apart the southeast corner township for organization on January 5, 1874, and named it Monroe.<sup>26</sup> Some time later the first town meeting was held at the store of H. N. Joy in Tracy, officers were selected, and Monroe township was fully organized.<sup>27</sup>

Land patents were granted by the government to the following named persons in Monroe township:

Reese Davis (8), Smith S. Fuller (8), Edward Glynn (6), Alden C. Levitt (12), William H. Morgan (20), A. Peterson (20), Philip Peregrine (6), Rees Price (18), Ole Rialson (22), E. L. Starr (24), Henry H. Welch (26), David Bumford (30), Charles S. Grover (6), William V. Taylor (6), John M. Chapin (24), Andrew Christensen (28), Edwin W. Healy (26), Ole Olson Sune (20), Wyatt Moulton (18), Anne Amundsen (32), Ole Helgeson Brevig (28), Elias Jones (10), Ole Johnson (26), Hugh R. Hughes (18), James R. Mullins (12), Elias Rialson (22), Gunerins Olson (30), Evan D. Evans (30), Charles Vau Dusen (4), Walter A. Sutherland (2), Hans T. Larson (10), Ingeborg Trulson (32), John Schultz (24), William Shand (14), Kittel C. Haugen (28), Charles W. Northrup (4), William F. Randall (4), Amand Erlandson (22), Thomas Devine (12), Amasa A. Farmer (12), Frederick Johnson (12), Emerson W. Ladd (2), Ole Amundson (20), Heirs Elias Olson (34), Ellef Anderson (34), Jacob F. Durst (8), Mary E. Bass (6), Adolph Gilbertson (14), Rasmus H. Lawrence (10), Hans Amundsen (32), Levi Montgomery (26), Benjamin R. Bass (6), William S. Moses (24), Truls Knudsen (32), John F. Knowles (34), John L. Craig (14), Solomon Evans (30), George White (18), Wilbur F. Nelson (2), Levi Bailey (4), Martin Larson (10), Guilbert

<sup>26</sup>The name was suggested by Louis and Ole Rialson, early settlers of the township who came from Green county, Wisconsin, the county seat of which was Monroe. The residents of the new township selected that name by ballot over Chelsea, another name that had been proposed. The Board of County Commissioners on January 6, 1874, directed the county auditor to send to the state authorities the name Starr, in case the name Monroe was rejected.

<sup>27</sup>The first birth in Monroe township was that of a daughter of Rees Price; the second was that of George White, a son of Mr. and Mrs. George White, born June 17, 1872; the child died September 10 of the same year, his death being the first in the precinct. Stella Cleveland taught the first school in the township in 1875. Religious services were first conducted in 1873 by Rev. Ransom Wait at the home of E. L. Starr. The first religious organization, a Congregational Sunday School, was formed in June, 1874, at the home of J. M. Wardell. The first church organization was that of the Presbyterian, formed in the fall of 1874; its church building, the first in the township, was erected in the spring of 1875.

Larson (10), Segrid Amundson (20), Ole Anderson (28).<sup>28</sup>

#### AMIRET.

The township which is now designated Amiret dates its existence from March 17, 1874, when the County Board, upon the petition of Horace N. Randall and others, authorized its citizens to organize. For several years the precinct bore the name Madison, but in 1879, by legislative act, its name was changed to Amiret, to correspond with the name of the village within its boundaries.<sup>29</sup> The first town meeting was held at the store of William Coburn April 7, 1874. S. S. Truax, J. H. Williams and H. N. Randall were judges of the election then held and William Coburn was clerk.

The first officers chosen were as follows: James Mitchell, Jr., chairman; Lafayette Grover and David Hawks, supervisors; William Coburn, clerk; S. S. Truax, treasurer; J. H. Williams, assessor; John Taylor, justice of the peace; Luther Mason, constable.<sup>30</sup>

To the following early settlers of Amiret township government land titles were granted:

Henry Borchert (30), William Doxie (6), Charles Donaldson (22), George W. Donaldson (22), Simeon S. Goodrich (12), Philo Hall (14), Isaiah D. Hetric (24), David Hawks (14), William Harrison (32), James Hopkins (30), Beers Johnson (30), Eliza A. Kennedy (34), Jacob Kline (28), N. Leavitt (26), Jane Mitchell

(30), Luther Mason (20), Saira H. Preston (26), J. C. Plumseth (28), Charles P. Silloway (22), O. W. Walsh (34), Hamilton Drake (28), Merritt Shaw (18), James Mitchell (30), Peter McKeever (30), Frederick A. Woodruff (2), Joseph Connelly (30), Valentine O. Covey (10), James W. Drew (4), Jasper L. Havens (24), Don D. Harding (28), Calvin Maydole (18), Franklin G. Cahow (12), Luvina Devens (10), Ariel H. Wellman (26), William Coburn (10), Oliver P. Ball (4), Joseph Fredenburg (2), Alfred Nichols (20), George Beck (18), Daniel Warn (24), Nelson Johnson (18), John W. Taylor (14), Joseph B. Shepard (4), George W. Smith (8), James Struthers (8), Joseph Shake (6), Horace N. Randall (14-2), Henry C. Maydole (6), Isaac C. Seeley (8), Benjamin R. Bass (6), James D. Bevier (24), Sidney N. Lund (24), John B. Martin (24), Ambrose N. Smith (18), Jacob Devens (4), James Mitchell, Jr. (4), Ephraim Skyhawk (2), Abraham V. Brown (10), John Sherman (12), Eugene E. Harding (20), Homer C. Swift (8), Emery J. York (26), Lewis F. Rowell (10), Thomas Johnson (24), Charles Mason (20), Burton A. Drake (6), Perry D. Gross (20), Charles F. Whipple (28), Andrew Purves (18), John D. Owens (32), Alexander Kennedy (12), Joel H. Harris (32), Louis Michel (6), Gardner F. Harding (34).<sup>31</sup>

#### WESTERHEIM.

Nearly all the early day settlers of Westerheim township were Norwegians and when the time came to organize the township they gave it a Norwegian name—Westerheim, meaning western home. The petition for the creation of the township was presented to the county authorities February 24, 1876, and was signed by J. R. Blanchard, A. A. Lee and others. Action on the petition was deferred, but on April 19,

<sup>28</sup>The farming population of Monroe township in 1884 was composed of the following: C. Reggle, E. W. Ladd, J. Jones, Jessup & Walsh, C. W. Van Dusen, W. Northrup, James Thomson, J. W. Tyson, Philip Peregrine, B. R. Bass, E. W. Glynn, I. Grover, J. Glynn, J. F. Durst, J. P. Davis, Rees Davis, R. H. Lawrence, Martin Larsen, Gulbrand Larsen, Elias Jones, T. Larson, Nevius Brothers, J. R. Mullen, J. B. Mullen, J. B. Deal, J. L. Craig, J. C. Tweet, R. Cavanaugh, N. H. Starr, C. Muediking, Wyatt Moulton, H. R. Hughes, Rees Price, W. H. Morgan, Ole Amundson, Ole Olsen, Charles C. Warren, A. Erlandson, Louis Rialson, S. D. Peterson, T. Lewis, Ole Rialson, W. S. Moses, W. Henning, J. Moline, J. S. Wilmarth, H. H. Titus, Levi Montgomery, Ole Johnson, J. J. Randall, C. Christianson, Ole Anderson, Ole Helgeson, Andrew Christensen, Mrs. R. Sessions, E. D. Evans, G. O. Miller, A. Amendsen, H. Amundson, J. Jacobson, H. Moline, Ellef Anderson, J. Retz, Schmitz.

<sup>29</sup>The village was named in honor of Amiretta Sykes, wife of M. I. Sykes, vice president of the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad Company and also of the Winona & St. Peter Railroad Company.

<sup>30</sup>The first birth in Amiret township was a daughter born to Mr. and Mrs. William Coburn in 1873. The first death occurred in 1872 and was a daughter of Luther Mason. The first marriage was that of J. A. Hunter and Miss C. A. Mitchell and was performed June 3, 1875. The first school was taught in 1873 by Mrs. Warnick in a board shanty on section 31. The first religious services were conducted in 1872 by Rev. J. Reese, and the first church, Congregational, was built in 1873.

<sup>31</sup>The settlers of Amiret township in 1884 were F. S. Woodruff, Joseph Fredenburg, Ephraim Skyhawk, Jacob Devens, O. P. Ball, J. W. Drew, H. C. Maydole, Joseph Shake, C. H. Dudley, James Struthers, H. C. Swift, John Curray, A. Nichols, V. O. Covey, W. Blackman, P. Devens, John Sherman, J. M. Taylor, J. Frost, H. N. Randall, S. F. Rowell, H. Curray, C. R. Maydole, D. Tucker, J. W. Nichols, B. Nichols, James T. Hernan, H. D. Shepherd, T. R. Mathews, J. M. Mitchell, J. York, A. D. Lord, G. Harding, Hamilton Drake, James Mitchell, P. Ford, C. S. Grover, L. D. Grover, William Harrison, G. F. Harding and O. W. Walsh.

1876, the necessary action was taken and the township named.

The town meeting to effect an organization was held at the home of Peter Johnson May 9, 1876, when the following were chosen first officers: Halvor Nyland, chairman; O. J. Moe and Hans Samuelson, supervisors; O. L. Orsen, clerk; Andrew Lee, treasurer; Thorbjorn Huso, assessor; John Iltad and H. P. Johnson, justices of the peace; Rasmus Hanson and T. H. Opdahl, constables.<sup>32</sup>

Titles to lands in Westerheim were granted by the government to the following:

Halvor Aadson (30), Thorbjorn Aadson (30), R. W. Cavanaugh (22), Mary M. Oliver (8), George L. Richardson (34), Johan Olsen Stensrud (14), Oscar Thompson (20), S. Hognason (4), Jonathan Peterson (4), William Marshall (26), Rasmus Hanson (32), Knut Knutson (30), Knud T. Thompson (2), Ole Thompson (2), Sigbjorn Sigurdson (2), Gudmunder Jonsson (14), Elling J. Oxaas (4), Hans Samuelson (12), Gunnlaugur Petursson (14), Sander Knudson (28), Oluf S. Orson (8), Christopher Christianson (24), Ostander Warren (26), Alexander D. Hill (26), John Iltad (30), Hans P. Johnson (20), Knud J. Hall (2), Ole L. Orsen (18), Thronel H. Opdahl (6), Thorlak Peterson (10), Andrew Helliikson (10), Josef Josefsson (8), Knud A. Broughton (12), Byrnel L. Leland (20), Andus H. Opdahl (34), Ole J. Leland (20), Henrik Samuelson (12), John C. Rogde (28), Knud Knudson Floe (18), Oliver J. Moe (18), Sigmundi Jonathason (10), Vincentius Engels (26), Joseph Kenna (22), Magnus M. Strom (6), John Kiley (30), Patrick McGinn (28), Francis Buysse (34), Bjorn Gislason (10), Elbert F. Claffin (28), Carolina Van de Wolstyne (34), Henry Van Altvorst (4), Ole Jacobson Moe (18), Edward Cassidy (22), Knudt E. Fodness (6), Magnild Orson (18).<sup>33</sup>

#### VALLERS.

Vallers township received settlers in an early day, and so early as 1873

attempts to bring about local government were made. One or two elections were held to that end, but for some reason the government was not perfected. The County Board passed the necessary enabling act September 21, 1876, and named the precinct Vallers.<sup>34</sup>

The township began local government October 7, 1876, when the first town meeting was held at the home of Ole O. Brenna. The officers elected at that time were as follows: S. W. Laythe, chairman; John Anderson and M. K. Snortum, supervisors; Ole O. Brenna, Jr., clerk; Ole O. Brenna, Sr., assessor; Ole O. Brenna, Jr., justice of the peace.<sup>35</sup>

There was considerable University land in Vallers and as a result the list of those who obtained land titles from the government is not so large as in most of the other towns. The list is as follows:

Johannes Anderson (6), Norman L. Jones (32), Michel Knudson (4), Johan Olsen (4), Ole O. Prestegaren (2), Ole Olsen Brenna (4), Nathan B. Langdon (34), Ole Anderson (6), Andrew O. Anderson (6), Horace C. Bemis (34), Knudt Swenson (22), Christian O. Hovde (20), Harvey W. Throop (26), J. L. Robinson (26), Casper Holter (18), William H. H. Hayward (30), Alexander McNaughton (26), Ole J. Ulland (8), Ole Lende (22), Jacob Harpster (32), Olaus Hanson (20), Gulik Olsen (2), Louise McMasters (34), Lena A. Cliffgard (18), Mary Orson (28), Hans A. Solberg (26), August Dieken (32), Ole O. Brenna, Jr. (8), Charles A. Butler (28), John Discher (28), Severt H. Thorness (28), Michael Norton (22), Ole Anderson (6), Ole E. Borthus (30), Rasmus J. J. Haaskjold (20), Edward E. Ackerman (28), Sven Knudsen Thon (20), Martin J. Osnes (18), Einar L. Oftedal (26), Ferdinand Wambeke (30), John S. Thon (22), Carl G. Anderson (18), Daniel P. Shoe-

<sup>32</sup>Westerheim's first birth was a daughter born to Mr. and Mrs. John Iltad in 1874. In June, 1874, the first marriage, a double one, was celebrated—H. A. Nyland to Inger Olson and T. A. Huso to Carrie Olson. The bride of H. A. Nyland died in September of the same year, the death being the first one in the precinct. The first school was taught by Knud Fodness in 1877.

<sup>33</sup>The residents of Westerheim in 1884 were K. J. Hall, S. Sigurdson, Ole Thompson, K. T. Thompson, C. Johnson, E. J. Oxaas, John Peterson, S. Hognason, Mary Oliver, Oluf Orson, Josef Josefsson, Andrew Helliikson, S. Jonathason, Bjorn Gislason, K. A. Broughton, Hans Samuelson, Henry Samuelson, John Stensrud, E. Feldstad, G. Jonsson, G. Petursson, E. Bjornson, Walter Walsh, Lars Orson, Ole L. Orsen,

O. J. Moe, B. L. Leland, H. P. Johnson, O. I. Leland, E. Cassidy, W. Sanden, Alex DeWitt, Chris Johnson, William Marshall, J. C. Rogde, F. DeReu, H. A. Nyland, Rasmus Hanson, Ole O. Skogen, John Iltad, A. DeZutter, Andrew Lee, D. Van de Norstye, Andrew Opdahl and Van Halsbeck.

<sup>34</sup>It is said that Ole O. Brenna, an early settler, was responsible for naming the town. His desire was to name it Valla, a Norwegian word meaning valley, but because of incorrect spelling in the petition or illegibility the county commissioners made the name read Vallers.

<sup>35</sup>John Anderson, born in 1872, was the first child born in Vallers. The first death was that of Ole J.

maker (34), Andreas S. Malde (2), Thorstein Thorseinson (8).<sup>36</sup>

#### CUSTER.

Although one of the first settlements of Lyon county was located in Custer, the township was not granted local government until 1876. The County Board declared the township organized September 21, 1876, and named it Custer.<sup>37</sup> The first town meeting was held October 14 and the following were elected first officers: L. D. Lewis, chairman; W. H. Hughes and William Shand, supervisors; B. F. Thomas, clerk and treasurer.<sup>38</sup>

The greater part of the early settlers of Custer township were Welsh. The government granted land titles to the following:

John Avery (10), Milton Cairn (2), Edward H. Cutts (26), Jeremiah Evans (14), David E. Evans (2), Knute Johnson (1), Ogen Johnson (1), Richard Morgan (2), Joseph Wagner (2), William W. Harrison (10), Benjamin F. Thomas (4), Simon Delong (2), Lafayette Alden (4), David E. Griffith (12), George F. Grotfelter (18), Andrew Johnson (28), Hugh H. Williams (24), Nekolai Nilson (28), Edward R. Jones (6), Benjamin T. Kirby (6), John T. Bickell (6), Andrew A. Nilson (6), William J. Crawford (20), John L. Harris (24), Carl Whittmutz, Sr. (20), Carl Whittmutz, Jr. (20), Abner G. Bumford (22), Richard H. Hughes (12), William Parker (30), J. Helleson (28), Peter Fedde (18), Joseph Rees (12), Hendrick Peterson (34), Hans M. Anderson (8), Solomon Evans (24), James Morgan (12), Hugh R. Hughes (14), John E. Hughes (14), Tolloff Nelson (34), John P. Jones (28), William H. Davy (6), Robert R. Owens (26), Thomas L. Harris (24), Andrew Booth (4), John S. Owens (26), Frank L. Whiting (32),

Lewis P. Jones (2), Landy Soward (32), Hans Jacobson (34), Clemet Helleson (34), Daniel Willford (22), Knud K. Olsen (22), Andrew Green (24), Charles W. Candee (30), Joel A. Tucker (30), Lars Nilson (32), James Elliott (18), Willard Gifford (18), Heirs David D. Jones (18), Benjamin Thomas, Sr. (4), Henry C. Masters (10), Torger P. Lien (32), John Whittmus (20), Lewis Soward (22), John H. Jones (8), James Steele (22), David Morgan (2), Owen R. Owens (26), Bengt Swenson (6), Margaret Jones (10), Charles A. Anderson (8), Annie S. Cutts (20), Sarah M. Randall (11), William Jackson (30).<sup>39</sup>

#### CLIFTON.

The next township we have to consider in the order of their creation is Clifton, which first was entitled to a place on the map September 21, 1876. At that time the County Board designated the new division Edenview, but a short time later the name was changed to Clifton. Christopher Dillman, a pioneer of the precinct, suggested the name.

The first election to choose officers was held at the school house of district No. 28 on October 7, 1876, when the following were chosen: A. J. Waite, chairman; G. P. Ladenburg and Christopher Dillman, supervisors; R. D. Barnes, clerk; C. A. Cook, treasurer; J. A. Dillman, assessor; G. W. Mossman and John M. Linn, justices of the peace; H. J. Newhouse and W. B. Franklin, constables.<sup>40</sup>

The following named persons were early settlers of the township and

Eugen, who died in August, 1877. The first marriage ceremony was performed December 23, 1877, and united Ole O. Brenna, Jr., to Anna Olson. The first school, a private one, was taught by J. L. Robinson in 1879; the first public school was conducted by Lavina Day in 1880 and a school house was built that year. Rev. Knud Thorstenson, a Lutheran minister, preached the first services in 1877 at the home of Ole O. Brenna.

<sup>36</sup>According to a list prepared by C. F. Case for his History of Lyon County, the following were the only heads of families living in Vallers in 1884: G. O. Aamat, H. Olson, A. S. Malde, E. Varpnes, Michel Knudson, Ole O. Brenna, Sr., Andrew O. Anderson, John Anderson, Ole Anderson, O. A. Anderson, T. Thorsteinson, O. J. Ulland, Ole O. Brenna, Jr., E. S. Roti, J. Roti, I. Olsen, M. J. Osnes, O. H. Miller, C. O. Hovde, S. K. Thon, R. J. J. Haaskjold, Knud Swenson, Ole Lende, H. A. Solberg, H. W. Throop, A. Baldwin, J. L. Robinson, S. H. Thorsness, Ole E. Borthus, Mike O'Toole, N. L. Jones, N. M. Fisk and Cox Brothers.

<sup>37</sup>When plans were first laid for the organization of the precinct, in the early summer of 1876, the residents proposed to name it Reno, in honor of the general then taking a prominent part in the Indian campaign. Before the organization was made, however, General Custer and his forces had been massacred on the Little Big Horn and some blame for that disastrous event was attached to General Reno. When the petition was presented it asked for the name Custer, in honor of the massacred leader of the white forces.

<sup>38</sup>The first school in Custer township was taught by Jane Mitchell in 1870 in a log school house on section 2. Rev. Riley, a Methodist minister, conducted the first religious services in 1870. The first church society, Presbyterian, was organized in 1871 by Rev. Joseph Rees and the first church was erected in 1873.

<sup>39</sup>Permanent residents of Custer in 1884 were G. S. Robinson, C. M. Goodrich, David Morgan, E. H. Cutts, Simon Delong, B. F. Thomas, B. B. Thomas, Lafayette Alden, Andrew Booth, C. A. Anderson, John Avery,

secured lands through the homestead and timber culture acts:

Moses Barnes (6), Joseph C. Brown (34-24), Charles A. Cook (6), John F. Constant (18), Aaron M. Dudley (32), Walter Dunn (12), William B. Franklin (34), John Haghes (30), Henry G. Mead (8), Tenbroeck Stout (26), Mathew Wilson (4), Charles Marks (2), George W. Selover (24), D. A. Keyes (22), Seymour S. Sloan (10-4-30), Oliver B. Brown (34), Silas B. Wheeler (6), Herman J. Newhouse (8), Newton C. Truax (4), Fred Hawkins (28), John M. Linn (18), W. S. Rader (34), Botlof Knudson (6), Alfred Mead (10), Winfield W. Mossman (12), Louis Stein (30), George Metselder (4), Marcus C. Humphrey (14), George W. Mossman (12), Jacob Dillman (20), William H. Dille (24), August Adler (10-6), Charles Gary (10), Mary Truax (18), Frederick Shake (32-28), Christopher Dillman (20), James B. Brown (30), Benaiah A. Grubb (6), Joseph Pierard (22), George Ladenburg (18), Abbott J. Waite (18), Edward C. Kieffe (32), August Minneseng (26), George W. W. Shaw (22), Dewitt C. Ackerman (10), John W. Blake (30), George C. Dillman (20), Julius Freiheit (26), John B. Fairbank (14), Edwin S. Reishus (28), James Strange (4), William A. Titus (14), William Castle (26), John P. Louis (2), Peter A. Norton (2), Robert M. Hassinger (12), George M. Cauffman (34), Daniel Kennedy (20).<sup>41</sup>

#### STANLEY.

Stanley township has the distinction of having been the first in Lyon county to boast a permanent white settler, T. W. Castor and family having located there in 1867. It was settled in the early days largely by Scotchmen. A petition was presented for the organization of the precinct in July, 1873, but the Board of County Commissioners de-

ferred action, and it was several years later when the desired action was taken.

Stanley was one of four townships created on September 21, 1876. At that time it was named Delaven, but the name was rejected by the state auditor, and Stanley was conferred upon it December 23, 1876. It was ordered that the first town meeting be held on October 14, 1876, but the result of the election—if one was held—is not known. At the election in March, 1877, the following officers were chosen: F. B. Patterson, chairman; Colin McNiven and James Garry, supervisors; D. T. Ludwig, clerk; Oliver Patterson, treasurer; Charles Kennedy, assessor; Duncan McKinlay and Edward Wilson, justices of the peace; Lester Garry and Mr. King, constables.<sup>42</sup>

Homesteads and tree claims were secured by the following in Stanley township:

Albert Cauffman (20), William A. Crooker (28), Daniel Monroe (12), William Monroe (2), Ole O. Myrvick (20), Duncan McKinlay (4), Thomas McKinlay (4), Frank B. Patterson (28), James White (2), Peter Brooks (22), James W. Young (14), Oliver Patterson (28), David N. Mason (34), Charles Kennedy (30), John Russell (10), Charles H. Currie (14), Charles E. Higby (32), Newton D. Wasson (20), Elizabeth Bosler (14), William F. Neill (8), James Garry (10), Mary J. Sprague (32), Henry Sprague (32), James F. Gibb (8-6), Colin McNiven (12), Robert Monroe (6), James Dick (8), James McKinlay (4), Julia N. Knox (18), Hannah C. Knox (18), Fred Beltz (22), George A. Camp (22), George Bissett (26), George Hussack (10), Samuel C.

Metselder, B. Snyder, C. Rock, C. A. Cook, R. D. Barnes, B. A. Grubb, H. J. Newhouse, P. I. Truax, Henry Mead, August Adler, C. M. Gary, D. C. Ackerman, F. H. Fligge, Alfred Mead, B. Hassinger, W. Mossman, F. Rowley, M. C. Humphrey, F. Bedbury, G. P. Ladenburg, J. M. Linn, J. Flemming, J. A. Dillman, Christopher Dillman, George Dillman, G. W. Shaw, D. A. Keys, Joseph Pierard, W. H. Dilly, G. W. Selover, J. Durkey, August Minneseng, Julius Freiheit, Fred Hawkins, L. Nichols, J. B. Brown, Frederick Shake, E. C. Knieff, J. C. Brown and W. S. Rader.

<sup>40</sup>The first birth in Clifton was that of Laura M. Cook, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. C. A. Cook, born October 24, 1872. The first death was that of a child of W. B. Franklin, in December, 1878. The first school was taught by Ida Mead in 1876. The first sermon was preached by Rev. H. C. Simmons, Congregationalist, in 1875, and the first church was organized in 1880.

<sup>41</sup>The settlers of Clifton in 1884 were Charles Marks, C. J. Spong, William Marks, H. C. Meehl, George

Metselder, B. Snyder, C. Rock, C. A. Cook, R. D. Barnes, B. A. Grubb, H. J. Newhouse, P. I. Truax, Henry Mead, August Adler, C. M. Gary, D. C. Ackerman, F. H. Fligge, Alfred Mead, B. Hassinger, W. Mossman, F. Rowley, M. C. Humphrey, F. Bedbury, G. P. Ladenburg, J. M. Linn, J. Flemming, J. A. Dillman, Christopher Dillman, George Dillman, G. W. Shaw, D. A. Keys, Joseph Pierard, W. H. Dilly, G. W. Selover, J. Durkey, August Minneseng, Julius Freiheit, Fred Hawkins, L. Nichols, J. B. Brown, Frederick Shake, E. C. Knieff, J. C. Brown and W. S. Rader.

<sup>42</sup>The first child born in Stanley township was also the first child born in Lyon county. He was Hugh W. Castor, son of T. W. and Mary Castor, and was born September 13, 1867. The first death was that of Charles Knox and occurred in November, 1876. The first marriage—Daniel Monroe to Harriet White—occurred November 12, 1874. The first school was taught in 1875 at the home of James White by Ann Monroe; the first school house was built in 1880. The first sermon was preached July 13, 1873, at the home of C. H. Currie, by Rev. E. Wilson, Methodist.

Knox (28), George Michie (6), Edward Wilson (24), John A. Little (24), Frederick D. McLeod (12), Philip Kennedy (26), David H. Tickner (28), Charles A. Knox (20), T. Wilson Castor (13-24), Robert Heilman (18), Burl Story (32), Lester Garry (10), George Marron (20), Martin Christensen (24), Nelson F. Frary (26), Robert W. Dick (4), Jane Glashan (6), Peter White (10), William W. Rich (30).<sup>43</sup>

#### SODUS.

The township which is now designated Sodus was created by the Board of County Commissioners October 9, 1876, and named Martin. The name was rejected by the state auditor because a township in Rock county bore that name, and on December 13, 1876, the name Sodus was bestowed by the County Board. The new name had been selected by ballot by the voters of the new town.

The first town meeting was held at the home of Nathan Warn on October 27, 1876, when the following were selected first officers: Elezer Hall, chairman; Carage Fisher and Daniel Warn, supervisors; W. H. Chaffee, clerk; G. Sykes, treasurer; Nathan Warn and J. H. Clark, justices of the peace; Oscar W. Pangburn and W. G. Williams, constables.<sup>44</sup>

The government granted titles to land to early day residents of Sodus as follows:

J. C. Bateman (12), Alex Doig (34), Elezer Hall (24), Robert Marshall (30), William Neill (30), Knude Olson (30), William Shepard (32), Ephraim Warn (22), Albert Wienke (26), Henry J. Young (24), Thomas F. Watson (8), Sylvester A. Horton (20), Levi Craig (14),

<sup>43</sup>Farmers residing in Stanley township in 1884 were J. McFagen, James White, William Monroe, John Garry, W. Stewart, Thomas McKinlay, Duncan McKinlay, George Michie, Jane Glashan, G. Lowe, J. F. Gibb, W. T. Neill, James Dick, James Garry, John Russell, R. Cavanaugh, John Noble, C. H. Currie, T. Savage, E. Basler, W. Warnke, H. Wenholz, Mrs. G. Palmer, Mrs. Heskett, Julia N. Knox, H. G. Heilman, Robert Heilman, Newton Wasson, H. Lovelace, C. A. Knox, George Camp, Fred Beltz, Mrs. W. Wilson, Philip Kennedy, George Bissett, H. D. Tickner, S. S. Knox, C. E. Patterson, William W. Rich, T. D. Ludwig, Charles Kennedy, Charles Higby, H. J. Sprague and D. N. Mason.

<sup>44</sup>Mr. and Mrs. Henry Cuyle, who were the first settlers of the precinct, were the parents of the first child born in Sodus. The first death was that of Tollef Olson in September, 1873, and his funeral,

David Davis (34), William R. Griffiths (34), Thomas J. Hicks (6), William Marshall (20), William G. Williams (28), Thomas Edwards (34), Daniel W. Shilliam (18), Carlos E. Marsh (18), George J. Cook (26), David E. Clark (8), Konrad Lorenz (26), Tollef Olson (28), Anton Lorenz (26), Carage Fisher (4), Andrew Purves (12), Jacob D. Eastman (10), Henry Ford (30), Wilhelm Langhorst (14), Harrison Barnes (6), A. J. Estee (10), Enos Warn (22), Martin Lee (28), Arnold R. Chace (14), Adelia Berry (2), Nicholas Minns (6), Edward J. Roberts (34), William H. Chaffee (4), John B. Northrup (32), William H. Estee (14), Manly M. Curtiss (18), Hugh Neill (20), Robert Neill (30), John H. Clark (4), William Bolander (24), Lucy A. Swain (28), William Berry (2), William N. Shequen (32), August F. T. Giske (10), Orville Pangburn (4), Henry Van Schaick (18), Archibald Downie (18), Heirs Samuel Whitten (12), Charles E. Caley (6), Ezra Warn (22), John C. Taylor (22), Freeborn L. Austin (10), Oscar W. Pangburn (12), John Ritchie (2), Mathud Steel (2), Dana P. Sawyar (20), Heirs Olof Anderson (32), John J. Olsen (32), John Vogtman (14), Reuben Johnson (8), William Neill (30).<sup>45</sup>

#### ROCK LAKE.

Rock Lake township derives its name from the beautiful little body of water of the same name that lies within its boundaries. The lake was so named by the early settlers on account of the character of its banks, which in some places are walled up with boulders.

The township was created October 9, 1876. The first town meeting was held October 26 at the school house in district No. 18 (now district No. 60). The following were the first officers: William Livingston, chairman; William H. Hamm and James Abernathy, supervisors; A. N. Daniels, clerk; G. W. Linderman, treasurer; J. F. Crunch, assessor; J. A. Van Fleet and Lucius

conducted by Rev. Joseph Rees, was the first religious service in the township. Miss Frances Mason taught the first school in 1877 in a private house.

<sup>45</sup>The 1884 residents of Sodus were Mathud Steel, William Berry, J. McCudden, John Ritchie, Carage Fisher, W. H. Chaffee, Orville Pangburn, John Clark, Mr. Maxson, Harrison Barnes, C. E. Caley, Mr. Gray, Nicholas Minns, T. J. Hicks, D. E. Clark, E. Clark, A. R. Johnson, T. F. Watson, Henry Estee, C. E. Marsh, D. W. Shilliam, W. L. Thurston, Hugh Neill, Nathan Warn, J. C. Taylor, D. Warn, William Hull, A. R. Chace, J. Scott, B. Ford, George J. Cook, Albert Wienke, Konrad Lorenz, Anton Lorenz, J. N. Lawshe, W. G. Williams, Robert Neill, William Neill, Robert Marshall, Henry Ford, A. Anderson, William Shequen, A. C. Forbes, Thomas Edwards, John Griffiths, William Griffiths and N. Davis.

Town, justices of the peace; E. R. Weeks and Archie McNabb, constables.<sup>46</sup>

Land titles were granted to the following named early settlers of Rock Lake township:

Carl Gustaf Bengts (32), James F. Crunch (6), Edgar W. Gifford (24), John W. Lester (30), William Livingston (30), Lucius Nichols (20), C. L. Osborn (8), Orville E. Persons (6), S. S. S. Spink (24), P. E. Terry (18), R. E. Town (22), John M. Johnson (32), Chester H. Bullock (10), Archie McNabb (14), Alvah S. Town (22), Emily A. Glotfelter (14), George Carlaw (6), George W. Root (12), Reuben W. Taylor (18), Clark Town (28), Henry L. Gifford (26), Emery Hamm (10), Elbert M. Hamm (34), O. S. Carlisle (12), Johann Gatz (2), Olof O. Lof (34), Donald McInnes (28), Marvin S. Odekirk (2), William H. Hamm (24), Lucius Town (22), Edson R. Weeks (18), James Abernathy (8), Nils Truedsson (32), Julius A. Town (22), George B. Gifford (14), Thomas L. Terry (20), Patrick Russell (30), James B. Gibbons (12), Nathaniel Terry (28), John McKay (4), John K. Penhale (26), Heirs Hiram C. Howard (28), George W. Linderman (8), Joseph Ciesielski (4), William H. Trotter (24), John A. Van Fleet (4), Theodor J. Skaug (30), A. Hilmer Anderson (18), Margery J. Brownell (24), Absalom L. Wright (20), Frederick Lachman (2).<sup>47</sup>

#### ISLAND LAKE.

Within the borders of Island Lake township are a number of lakes. One of these is called Island lake, from the fact that in it is an island, about two and one-half acres in extent, covered with a growth of natural timber. The lake furnished the name for the township.

Island Lake township was set apart for organization September 20, 1878.

<sup>46</sup>A son of Archie McNabb was the first child born in Rock Lake township. The first death was that of George A. Glotfelter on June 21, 1878. C. M. Eichler and Cora Hamm were the first couple married in the precinct; they were married in October, 1879, by O. E. Persons, justice of the peace. The first school was taught by Miss Katie Glenn in 1876. The first sermon was preached by Rev. Joseph Rees in the fall of 1873.

<sup>47</sup>In 1884 the following had homes in Rock Lake township: Frederick Lachman, J. Golts, T. Luedke, G. Golts, M. S. Fawcett, J. A. Van Fleet, Mrs. Crouch, George Carlaw, O. E. Persons, James Abernathy, G. W. Linderman, J. O'Garee, G. W. Rowe, George W. Root, M. Randall, O. S. Carlisle, J. W. Wolverton, Archie McNabb, C. A. Glotfelter, E. R. Weeks, R. W. Taylor, S. Flint, T. L. Terry, O. E. Merriman, Lucius Town, Mrs. McErlain, A. S. Town, Nils Truedsson, E. W. Gifford, Mrs. W. H. Trotter, William Hamm, J. H. Moore, H. L. Gifford, A. W. Bean, Clark Town, H. C. Howard, Nathaniel Terry, Patrick Russell, T. J. Skaug, J. M. Johnson, C. G. Bengts, O. O. Lof, E. M. Hamm and J. P. Davis.

but the town was not organized until the following March. The first officers were: Robert Gardner, chairman; Lafayette Grow and George George, supervisors; J. R. King, clerk and assessor; D. A. Kennedy, treasurer; J. H. Sykes, constable.<sup>48</sup>

To government land in the township of Island Lake the following were granted title:

J. C. Beach (34), Charles J. Falk (34), John R. King (34), Lafayette Grow (6), Daniel W. Kennedy (26), Gunder Gunderson (4), Daniel D. Sanning (14), August T. Muhl (2), Heirs Samuel M. Van Buren (22), Albert Pochardt (32), August Polesky (22), Thomas H. Russell (26), John H. Sykes (22), John Fowlds (32), Kittle Folkvanson (4), Charles Bohlman (22), Halvor Olson Kaas (4), Robert Gardner (28), Sarah E. Wyant (28), Johan Albrecht (20), Enon Rolph (12), Mary E. Cornish (12), George George (24), Ole Willman (18), Richard W. Phillips (14), Henry K. Furgeson (10), Johan Hjalmar Petterson (26), James M. McDonald (18), Henry Nelson (8), Moses N. Roberts (8), Jacob Wilson (10), Edward H. Barnes (24), Peter Furgeson (4), Isaac Robinson (2), Duncan A. Kennedy (26), Jens P. Christensen (12), Edwin O. Baker (10), Presley Fuel (28), Carl Pochart (24), Asa R. Snow (6), Peder Jacobsen (2), John Olson Estol (2), Herbert R. Welsford (30), August Kalson (8), Homer Sparks (14), Valgedor Johnson (18), Martin Furgeson (10), Ole Furgeson (2), Henri Kerzmann (20), Edgar F. Tibbits (6), Theodor Jacobsen (8), Milton R. Beach (34), Owen Morris (20), Jes Paulsen (12), Elizabeth S. Prosser (2), Richard Phillips (14), Gottfried Steller (26), Charles F. Tibbits (8), Anders Anderson (18), John Hellyvig (32).<sup>49</sup>

#### SHELBURNE.

Shelburne township was not settled rapidly in the early days, due princi-

<sup>48</sup>The first children born in Island Lake township were a child born to the first wife of John R. King in 1871 and Ethel Hodgkins. The first marriage was that of John R. King to Elizabeth Milner on December 24, 1878. The first school was taught by Ada Kennedy in 1879. The first religious services were conducted at the home of John R. King by a Rev. Dewey from Chicago.

<sup>49</sup>There were living in Island Lake township in 1884 the following: August Muhl, John Olson, Peder Jacobsen, Ole Furgeson, John Wilson, Peter Furgeson, K. Furgeson, Halvor Olson, G. Rue, B. Knutson, E. F. Tibbits, Lafayette Grow, A. R. Snow, C. F. Tibbits, Theodor Jacobsen, M. W. Roberts, Henry Nelsen, Martin Furgeson, H. K. Furgeson, Jacob Wilson, Jes Paulsen, Mary Cornish, Enon Rolph, J. P. Christensen, George Boston, R. W. Phillips, John Lanning, Richard Phillips, Homer Sparks, C. Willman, M. McDonald, John Albright, Owen Morris, Charles Bohlman, John Dyke, W. Van Buren, Paul Polasky, Carl Pochart, E. H. Barnes, George George, J. H. Petterson, T. H. Russell, D. W. Kennedy, D. A. Kennedy, Robert Gardner, S. Freese, John Fowlds, Albert Pochart, J. C. Beach, C. J. Falk and J. R. King.

pally to its distance from railroad points, and its organization was considerably delayed. The County Board took the necessary action to make it an organized township on August 19, 1879, and the first town meeting was held at the home of C. P. McCann on September 6 of the same year.

The first officers of Shelburne township were as follows: C. P. McCann, chairman; D. A. Aurandt and W. F. Randall, supervisors; W. N. Olin, clerk; Erick Peterson, treasurer; F. W. Howard, assessor; E. F. Dickson and H. P. Sanden, justices of the peace; C. P. Howard and Andrew Gilbertson, constables.<sup>50</sup>

The following is a complete list of all persons who received patents to lands in Shelburne township under the homestead and timber culture acts:

John M. Burke (16), Charles B. Fellows (24), D. F. Kelley (2), David Alexander Aurandt (26), Erick Peterson (26), Allen Spink (2), Nelson R. Crouch (14), Charles M. Eichler (2), William Shafer (14), Hendrik Jorgenson (30), Cornelius Pederson Myran (20), Winslow N. Olin (14), Lyman E. Fellows (24), Even Anderson (30), Clarence E. Dean (4), Clement McCann (22), Peder Anderson (20), Hans P. Sanden (20), Pat McGinnis (34), John Pederson Myran (18), Frederick W. Howard (22), Nils A. Hommerburg (26), Andrew Peterson (32), Edwin F. Dickson (24), Andreas G. Hungerud (6), John Murphy (14), Ragnhild Olson (2), Christopher Johnson (20), Paul K. Ronning (32), N. Lilaquest Johnson (34), Heirs Sigre Johansen Gorseth (26), Ole Kjelson (6), William Shaw (18), Charles E. Carlson (30), Carl F. Olson Green (32), Frans Wilhelm Ceder (32), Bore Larsen (4), Ralph Hatten (22), Peter Johnson (34).<sup>51</sup>

#### COON CREEK.

The last township to take up the burdens of township government was

Coon Creek. Its settlement in the early days was slow, principally on account of so much of its territory being taken up by school and University lands, as well as railroad lands. Its settlement was meager until the early eighties, but it has now developed into one of the most densely populated farming townships of the county.

The people of the township presented a petition to the Board of County Commissioners January 4, 1882, asking for the creation of the township with the name of Garfield, in honor of the martyred president. The commissioners took action on the matter, but as one township in the state already bore the name Garfield, the commissioners bestowed upon it the name of Stowe. Provision was made for holding the first town meeting at the home of Louis Larson on March 7, but for some reason the people neglected the matter and Stowe township was never organized.

The matter of the organization of the township was again taken up July 17, 1883, when the commissioners named the precinct Coon Creek<sup>52</sup> and designated the home of William Lamon as the place and August 4, 1883, as the date for holding the first town meeting.

Following is a list of the first officers of Coon Creek township: Frank P. Willard, chairman; C. A. Johnson and John E. Johnson, supervisors; G. O. Rask, clerk; Louis Larson, treasurer; William Lamon and Christian Cupp, justices of the peace; J. F. Mungerson, constable.<sup>53</sup>

<sup>50</sup>Peter Ronning, son of Mr. and Mrs. Erick Ronning, born June 27, 1873, was the first child born in Shelburne. The first school was taught by Miss Sadie Bartlett in 1881. The first religious services were conducted in the fall of 1876 by Rev. Egland, a Norwegian Lutheran minister.

<sup>51</sup>The farmers of Shelburne township in 1884 were Allen Spink, John Olson, C. E. Dean, W. F. Randall, P. Simenson, Ole Kjelson, A. G. Hungerud, W. H. Shafer, W. N. Olin, John Murphy, E. K. Ronning, J. P. Myran, H. P. Sanden, Cornelius Peterson Myran, Peter Anderson, Christopher Johnson, C. P. McCann, P. McDowell, Ralph Hatton, E. F. Dickson, C. B.

Fellows, Erick Peterson, N. A. Hommerburg, Sigrid Gorseth, D. A. Aurandt, Hendrik Jorgenson, E. A. Blegen, M. L. Blegen, E. K. Ronning, I. L. Blegen, Pat McGinnis, N. Lilaquest and J. Limblum.

<sup>52</sup>The township was named from the creek, and there is also a Dead Coon lake just over the boundary line in Lincoln county. It is said that the latter was named by a corps of surveyors in the early days, they having found a dead coon on the bank of the lake.

<sup>53</sup>The first child born in Coon Creek township was William Sharrett, son of Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Sharrett, born at the home of D. S. Burt in 1870. The first

The only titles to homestead and timber claims in Coon Creek township were granted to the following:

Mattie E. Brown (30), Dallas S. Burt (24), Henry H. Hodgekins (22), Charles A. Johnson (2), William Shaw (30), Frederick Ihde (24), Gustaf Rask (8), Peter Lehnertz (6), Christian Cupp (6), Samuel Johnson (22), Suis Suisson (18), John Johnson (18), William B. Milner (8),

William Lamon (20), Johann Siemer (6), William McCarthy (12), William P. Rogers (2), Heirs Amelia Lichte (12), Edward Lichte (12), David S. Phillips (22), Arthur A. Joy (20), Rasmus C. Rакtenrud (18), Augusta Schellin (12), William Milner (10), John F. Mungerson (2), William Joy (20), James B. Laurie (4), Herbert Sykes (20), Louis Larson (18), Hans Gilbertson (6), John J. McDonald (30), Nils Anderson (2), Frederick Welsand (8).<sup>54</sup>

death, that of a baby of Mr. and Mrs. Burt, occurred in November, 1876. The first marriage occurred November 28, 1877, the contracting parties being Thomas Milner and Ella Knapp. The first sermon was preached by Rev. Ransom Wait in 1875.

<sup>54</sup>The farming population of Coon Creek township in 1884, one year after its organization, consisted of

the following: J. F. Mungerson, B. F. Bement, Nils Anderson, C. A. Johnson, W. M. Rice, F. Porter, Johann Siemer, P. Senerty, Christian Cupp, M. Milner, Gustaf Rask, W. W. Herrick, F. Willard, A. Johnson, William McCarthy, John Cleland, Louis Larson, John Johnson, A. A. Joy, T. Joy, William Lamon, J. Fuller, L. Hildreth, H. H. Hodgekins, D. S. Burt, Frederick Ihde, R. Taylor and J. J. McDonald.



## CHAPTER IV.

### EARLY SETTLEMENT (CONTINUED)—1870-1873.

WHEN Lyon County was organized in the summer of 1870 the only portions settled to any extent were along the Redwood river in the townships of Lyons, Lynd and Lake Marshall, and along the Cottonwood river in the townships of Custer and Amiret. There were a few families in the northern part of the county, and a few of the other townships boasted a family or two. When the federal census of 1870 was taken, about the time the county was organized, the total number of men, women and children residing in the present counties of Lyon and Lincoln was 268—about as many as now reside in the village of Russell!<sup>1</sup>

There were a number of new comers during 1870. Those who had come in a party the year before and taken claims returned and brought a few others with them, arriving June 1. The permanent settlers thus acquired were C. H. Whitney, C. H. Upton, E. G. Bascomb, O. A. Hawes, R. Waterman, Moses Fifield and Mendell Fifield, who had been out the year before; Dr. G. W. Whitney, Z. O. Titus and John N.

Johnson, who came with them and settled in Lynd; and John Snyder and William Ramsey, who took homes near Lake Benton. All these built sod shanties and most of them had families with them.

Among the other arrivals of 1870 were A. C. Tucker and M. A. Tucker, who located in Lynd; George R. Welch, who became a resident of Lake Marshall township; William S. Reynolds and Joseph Carter, who became the first settlers of Fairview; Daniel Monroe, who settled in Stanley; Frederick Holritz, the first settler in the township of Nordland; Rev. Williams and John R. King, who were the first to make homes in Island Lake; and D. S. Burt, the first settler of Coon Creek.

In the fall of 1870 a postoffice named Marshall was established at the home of C. H. Whitney on section 4, Lake Marshall township, and that gentleman served as postmaster until the village of Marshall was founded.

Another event of the year was the establishment of a store by Dr. G. W. Whitney. He opened it in September

<sup>1</sup>Lyon county was not recognized as a separate division by the census takers of 1870, but was included in Redwood county. Lynd precinct, which probably included the settled portions of Lyon and Lincoln counties, was listed as containing 268 persons. Of these, 235 were native born (including two Indians) and 33 were of foreign birth. The population of Redwood county in 1870 was 1829, divided as follows: Lac qui Parle, 307; Lynd, 268; Redwood Falls, 691;

Sheridan, 111; Sherman, 67; Yellow Medicine, 385. It is apparent that the precincts of Redwood Falls, Sheridan and Sherman were in the present Redwood county, that Lac qui Parle included the settled portions of the county which now bears that name, that Yellow Medicine precinct included the settled portions of the present county bearing the same name, and that Lynd precinct included the present counties of Lyon and Lincoln.

in the old log building on section 33, Lynd, the building that had served as James W. Lynd's trading post in the early days and in which later Luman Ticknor conducted a hotel. Later Dr. Whitney erected a store building in Lower Lynd and conducted the store there. Later still the Whitney store passed into the hands of Z. O. Titus and John N. Johnson.

In 1870 also came the first Indian scare. It was rumored that the Indians living to the west threatened to make a raid on the settlement at Lynd and excitement ran high. On May 24 a meeting of the settlers was held at the home of Luman Ticknor, of which C. F. Wright was chairman and T. T. Pierce secretary. At the meeting it was the opinion that danger threatened and a militia company was formed, the members signing a paper which read: "We, the undersigned, agree to enlist in a company of state militia for the defense of our settlement and state." The following officers were elected: James Cummins, captain; M. V. Davidson, first lieutenant; C. E. Goodell, second lieutenant; A. D. Morgan, orderly sergeant; C. E. Taylor, sergeant; W. Herrick, A. McGandy, P. Kiltz and W. Kiel, corporals. The captain was instructed to send to the adjutant general for arms and ammunition and to request that the Spencer rifle and one hundred rounds of cartridges to each man be sent.

Ha-Ka, a trusted Indian, was in the

settlement and promised to notify the settlers in case of danger. The scare soon died out and the organization of the militia company was not perfected.

Among the arrivals to Lyon county in 1871 were the following: G. M. Durst, C. T. Bellingham, Charles Bellingham, Milo Morse, Oren Drake, Mrs. U. S. Stone, Josiah Clark, Charles Bastion, Calvin Shipton, Charles Van Fleet and the Bean Brothers to Lake Marshall township;<sup>2</sup> O. C. Gregg, L. A. Gregg, Christian Nelson, P. I. Pierce and G. W. Pierce to Lynd; Ransom Wait, M. S. Fawcett and O. S. Carlisle to Lyons; John W. Elliott, Reuben Henshaw, Henry Gibbs and Richard Gates to Fairview; O. M. McQuestion to Grandview; A. O. Strand to Nordland; Nils Torgerson, Swend Peterson and Ole Esping to Eidsvold; Halvor A. Nyland and Thorbjin Aadson to Westerheim; William H. Slater, R. H. Price, Allend Christianson, Peter Oliason, E. T. Hamre, Hans Dahl and James Wardrop to Lucas; Lafayette Grow and Mr. Fort to Island Lake; J. R. Burgett, H. H. Hodgkins and F. T. Burt to Coon Creek; E. K. Ronning, C. P. Myran and Christopher Johnson to Shelburne; A. McNabb and George H. Thurston to Rock Lake; Henry Cuyale to Sodus; S. S. Truax to Amiret; David Stafford, E. W. Healy, George White and Rees Price to Monroe.

The Lynd settlement continued to be the social, political and business center

<sup>2</sup>The Marshall News-Messenger published the following interview with G. M. Durst in 1910:

"He [Mr. Durst] recalls that he and the late Charles Bellingham and the latter's father immigrated to Lyon county together, from Fillmore county. They came with an ox team and camped on the present site of Marshall on the night of May 25, 1871. There were then but two settlers on the ground which was later to be built up into a modern little city—C. H. Whitney and C. H. Upton. They located in the summer of 1869 on the southeast and northeast quarters of section 4 and built sod houses on the east side of the river. With the Bellingham-Durst party also came another ox team from Fillmore county with two young men, Charles Bastion and Calvin Shipton.

"Two or three days after their arrival the Bellinghams and Durst took their homesteads three miles

south from Marshall, on section 20, Lake Marshall township. A few days later Josiah Clark, the Bean boys and Charley Van Fleet put in an appearance, and about the same time Milo Morse, Mrs. U. S. Stone and Oren Drake. Morse and Mrs. Stone had filed on the southwest and northwest quarters of section 4.

"Milo Morse had a 'bee' that summer and Mr. Durst remembers that he was one of the party who helped at the 'bee' to put up the first sod shanty on the original site of Marshall, which was laid out in the center of section 4. The sod shanties of Messrs. Whitney and Upton were on the other side of the river, just outside the first plat, though part of the Whitney land was in the original plat and was all subsequently included in the village. The Morse sod house was east of the river, between Main Street and the Northwestern tracks."

of the county. It was still the most thickly settled part and in it were the county's capital, the only business houses, and the only place that could by any stretch of the imagination be termed a village.

One of the important events of 1871 was the establishment, at Upper Lynd, of the county's second store by Rev. W. T. Ellis. The store was quite a pretentious affair, considering its distance from the railroad and the sparsely settled country from which it drew trade. It was later moved to Lower Lynd, some two miles down the river.<sup>3</sup>

Although the population of the county was still very small, the year 1871 witnessed the founding of two villages in the Lynd settlement, about two miles apart—Upper Lynd, on the south side of the Redwood river, on the southeast quarter of section 33, about one and one-half miles above the present village of Lynd; and Lower Lynd, also on the Redwood river, about one-half mile northwest of the modern village of Lynd.

The village of Upper Lynd had been started earlier by A. W. Muzzy, already had a hotel and postoffice, was the county seat, and for a time had boasted a store. The plat of Lynd—commonly referred to as Upper Lynd—was platted by William T. Ellis and George C. Smith in the fall of 1871, the site having been surveyed by T. G. Morrill on August 22.

<sup>3</sup>"The older citizens of the county will remember Ellis as a character. Governed mostly by impulse, he was always ready to preach a sermon, run horses for the whisky, conduct a Sunday School, or beat his best friend in a trade. While here he was an energetic, fervid, effervescent citizen who did considerable to build up the church and secular interests of Lynd and develop its latent possibilities. He opened a store at Lynd and bought goods for it sufficient to stock several such settlements. His goods had to be brought in by team from New Ulm and were caught in a heavy rainstorm on the way. It is said the dried apples swelled so that all the other goods in that load were shoved overboard. His load of codfish, bought at ton rates, probably on time, had to be spread over the hills of Lynd to dry till the air of that settlement, it is claimed, reached the Flandreau Indians and seventy bucks went on the warpath, thinking they smelled the camp of another tribe."—Case's History of Lyon County.

After a short career the village succumbed to its more prosperous rival down the river, lost the county seat, postoffice and store, and in time became good farming land. Lower Lynd was laid out in June, 1871, by A. R. Cummins and A. D. Morgan. Levi S. Kiel and A. D. Morgan built a hotel on the site and the latter opened a store. After the fall of its up-river rival Lower Lynd became the leading town of Lyon county.<sup>4</sup>

The first church building in the county was erected by the Methodists early in 1871. It was located on M. V. Davidson's claim, the northeast quarter of section 33, Lynd. The building was of logs, had a shake roof, and the floor was of earth. Rev. C. F. Wright preached the first sermon in the building.

Although a school, supported by subscription, had been conducted so early as 1869, school districts were not organized or public schools conducted until 1871. Districts No. 1 and 2 were created by the Board of County Commissioners on March 15, 1871. The former included sections 20 to 29, inclusive, and 32 to 36, inclusive, in the township of Lynd; the latter included all of Lyons and Rock Lake townships.<sup>5</sup>

An event of the greatest importance to Lyon county at the time and bearing directly on its whole future history was the building, in 1872, of the Winona & St. Peter railroad—now a branch of the

<sup>4</sup>For a more complete history of these villages the reader is referred to chapter 16.

<sup>5</sup>Other early day school districts were as follows:

No. 3 (created April 4, 1871)—Amiret, Sodus, Custer and Monroe townships.

No. 4 (created May 16, 1871)—The eight northern townships of Lyon county.

No. 5 (created May 16, 1871)—The six southern townships of Lincoln county.

No. 6 (created January 2, 1872)—In Lincoln county.

No. 7 (created January 2, 1872)—The southern half of Lake Marshall township.

No. 8 (created January 2, 1872)—The northern half of Lake Marshall township and the southern tier of townships of Fairview township.

No. 9 (created June 1, 1872)—Ten and one-half sections in northeastern Lynd and northwestern Lake Marshall townships.

Northwestern system. To aid in the construction of the road the government gave to the company the odd-numbered sections of land for a distance of twenty miles on each side of its line, so that one-half the lands of Lyon county were withdrawn from homestead entry and passed into the possession of the railroad company.<sup>6</sup>

The line was run diagonally across the county from southeast to northwest. The rails were laid into the county in 1872, a construction train reached the site of Marshall on October 12, but the line was not operated until the spring of 1873.

The building of the railroad had a wonderful effect upon the settlement of Lyon county. A country into which a railroad is building is not destined long to remain a frontier region and during the whole of the year 1872 immigrants poured in and took claims in every precinct.<sup>7</sup> Sod shanties and little frame shacks dotted the prairies in theretofore unsettled portions.<sup>8</sup> The village of Marshall was founded and rapidly grew into the most populous and important center of the county.

Because there was this big immigration and the whole order of things was changed, it must not be imagined that the country was developed in a day.

<sup>6</sup> This land grant undoubtedly brought the railroad several years sooner than would have been the case otherwise and for the time being aided materially in the settlement of the county. But a little later, when all the government lands had been filed upon and settlers were passing through the county to locate upon the free lands in Dakota, it was found that the grant was a decided drawback to the settlement of the county. For several years the railroad lands were not placed on the market; when they were they sold for from six to fifteen dollars per acre.

<sup>7</sup> Among the arrivals of 1872 were Jacob A. H. Dahl, John Krog, Ole O. Brenna, Michael Knudson, A. Malde, Knud O. Dovre, T. O. Loftsgaarden, Ole O. Myrvik, Lars J. Jerpak, Sam Hanson, Charles Anderson, Sven H. Jeremiassen, Nils N. Myre, T. I. Trana, Nels Gregerson, Ole O. Nordby, T. J. Barber, Selden Coleman, James Butson, L. E. Bates, Jacob Thomas, James M. English, A. L. Baldwin, J. A. Brown, H. G. Howard, Thomas Lindsay, Frank D. Wasson, Duncan McKinlay, S. B. Wheeler, J. A. Dillman, R. D. Barnes, C. A. Cook, G. P. Ladenburg, C. H. Richardson, Joseph Sanders, John Ward, S. Webster, W. M. Todd, J. W. Blake, S. V. Groesbeck, J. A. Hunter, J. K. Johnson, Mathew Steele, W. G. Hunter, Andrew

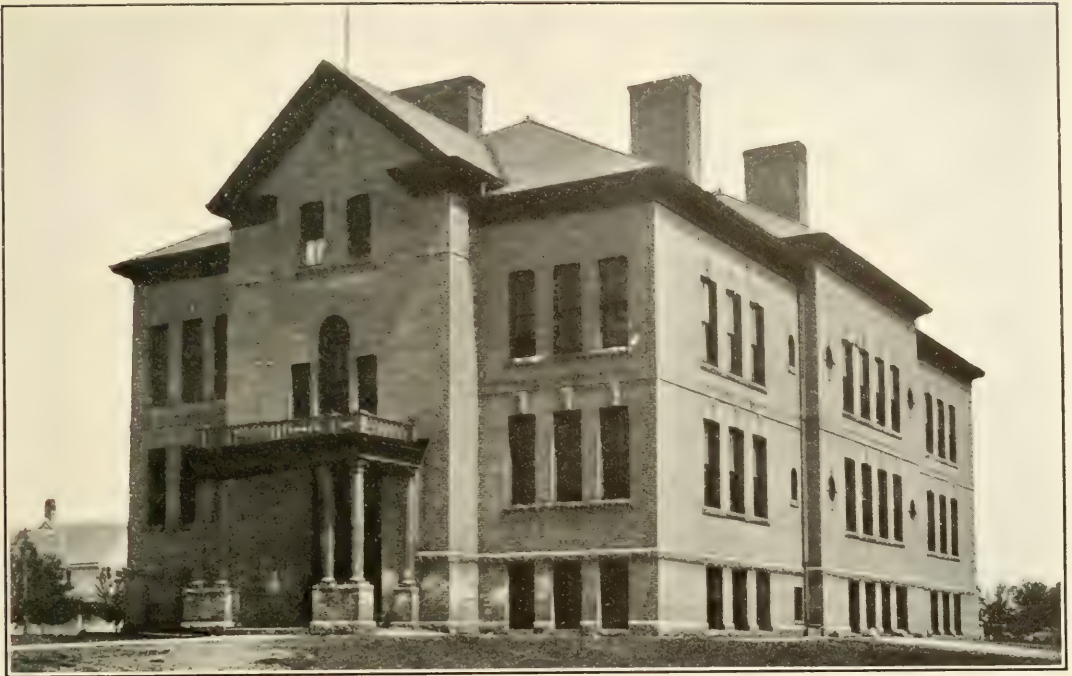
Almost without exception the early settlers of the county were poor in this world's goods; they came to secure free land and build themselves homes in the new country. Most of the arrivals of 1872 came too late in the season to break their lands and put in a crop, and consequently there was not a large harvest.

Only 676 acres of land—a little more than one section—were planted to crop in 1872 in the whole territory now embraced in the counties of Lyon and Lincoln. Of these 342 acres were in wheat, 98 in oats, 167 in corn, 6 in barley, 13 in buckwheat, 45 in potatoes and 5 in beans. From this acreage were produced 6690 bushels of wheat, 3889 of oats, 5274 of corn, 165 of barley, 3651 of potatoes, and 88 of beans. There were also put up 2574 tons of wild hay. The dairy products consisted of 7166 pounds of butter and 4850 pounds of cheese. There were less than 500 head of cattle and only ninety sheep in the county in 1872, according to the assessors' figures.

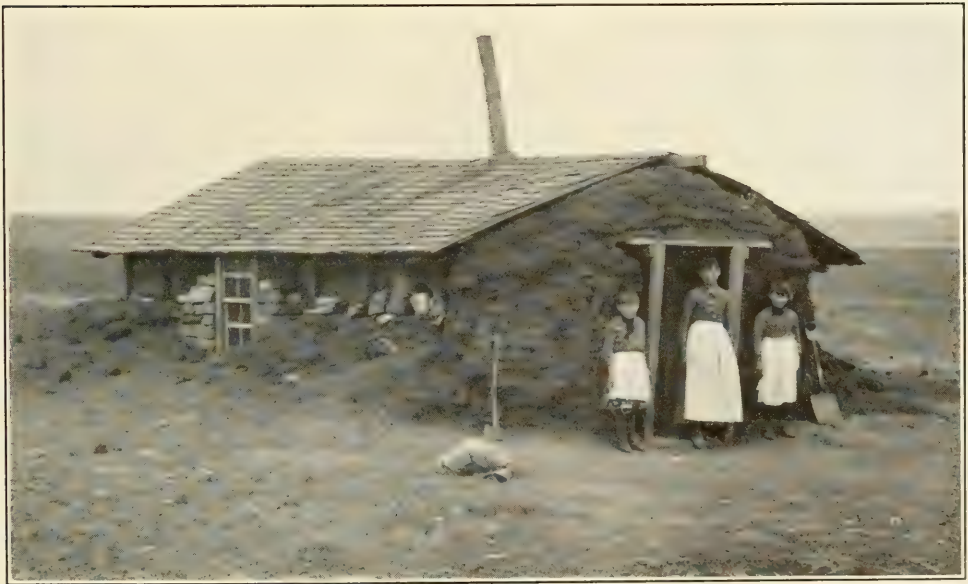
Except for the fact that the prairies became dotted with the homes of settlers, it was largely the same virgin territory it had always been. The game lover found himself in a paradise. Birds abounded. There were ducks,

Hamm, Joshua Goodwin, E. B. Jewett, Walter Wakeman, J. W. Williams, W. Coleman, D. P. Billings, Stanley Addison, J. A. Coleman, Andrew Barrett, Thomas McNeil, W. M. Pierce, L. B. Nichols, Lyman Turner, N. Wilkins, C. Mehan, Daniel Farquhar, B. F. Link, George Link, H. P. Sanden, J. W. Hoagland, M. M. Hoagland, Samuel W. Galbraith, Edson Weeks, Orval Persons, Noble Cuyler, H. Drake, J. L. Craig, Louis Rialson, Ole Rialson, E. L. Starr, Edward Glynn, Ole Andersen, Ole Helgeson, Andrew Christensen, Kittle Christopherson, David Morgan, William H. Hamm, Emery Hamm, G. W. Linderman, C. Osborn, J. W. Lester, J. A. Van Fleet, J. T. Crouch, A. S. Town, Lucius Town, Lina Bishop, Loliff Olson, Henry G. Mead, Hugh Neill, William Neill, David Clark, H. O. Clark, John H. Clark, George R. Watkins and S. L. Wait.

<sup>8</sup> Sod houses were easily built and were the prevailing style of architecture in the days when lumber was scarce and money more so. They were comfortable if properly built. Some of them had floors and others did not. The roof was usually constructed of poles and brush, covered with dirt and sod; some of them shed rain and some did not.



TRACY PUBLIC SCHOOL



TYPICAL SOD SHANTY

In Such Houses as This Hundreds of Lyon County Residents Had Their Homes.



wild geese, brant, curlew and prairie chickens. Occasionally glimpses were caught of some of the big game that formerly roamed the prairies in vast numbers. The summer was fine. The days and nights were frequently glorified by electrical storms of terrific and ineffable grandeur. At night the settlers often sat until midnight watching the frolic of sheet-lightning playing over miles of cloud banks, vividly suggesting the possible glories of another world. Vegetation grew rank. The newcomers rode along the river bottoms or on the edges of sloughs through seas of wild bluejoint grass up to the horses' backs.

It was the experience of a life time, this breaking up the virgin lands and building a community from the ground up, and many were the probable and improbable stories told of those days. Letters went back to the old homes in the East, telling how the homesteaders planted corn with an ax and caught fish with a pitchfork, and how the piano was set up in the shanty and the library stacked up under the bed.

During the season the county was visited by disastrous prairie fires and hail storms, and as a result aid for those who met with loss was furnished by the state. For the relief of those in straitened circumstances in Lyon county by reason of fire losses, \$100 was distributed. To supply seed grain the state authorities also sent to the county \$808.25, all of which was reported distributed by the Board of County Commissioners on March 19, 1873.

The winter following the year of rapid settlement—the winter of 1872-73—must go down in history as a most severe one. It brought the most terrible blizzard in the county's history, before or since, in which the settlers received their first experience of real hardships.

Winter began November 12. The day had been fine, but toward nightfall those who knew the Northwest saw indications of a blizzard. At dark a gale from the northwest struck the houses with a whack as distinct as if it had been a board in the hands of Old Boreas. One of the famous northern blizzards was on, and there was a series of storms until the afternoon of the third day. Thenceforth it was winter. Snow fell to a great depth, probably not less than two feet, but it was so blown about and drifted by the wind that in some places there were drifts of twenty feet or more.

From the time winter so set in there was little let-up in the severity of the weather. One storm followed another, and when not storming the weather was cold and severe, while the deep snows, almost constantly drifting, made travel difficult and sometimes dangerous. During that long winter the inhabitants of this part of the state were practically shut out from the world. For weeks at a time there were no mails. Many people were inconvenienced for want of necessary food, fuel and clothing. The sufferings and horrors of that long and dreadful winter will never be effaced from the memories of those who experienced them.

The ill-fated year 1873 began with the most violent storm in the history of the state from the time of its first settlement to the present date. For three days, beginning January 7, the blizzard raged, extending over the whole Northwest. The temperature was from eighteen to forty degrees below zero during the whole period of the storm. The air was filled with snow as fine as flour. Through every crevice, keyhole and nailhole the fine snow penetrated, puffing into the houses like steam. Seventy human lives were lost in the

storm in Minnesota, and eight of this number were people who resided in Lyon county as then constituted.

The forenoon of Tuesday, January 7; was mild and pleasant; the sky was clear and there was no wind. It seemed as though a "January thaw" was imminent. The pleasant weather had induced many farmers to go to the woods for a supply of fuel or with their families to the neighbors to visit.

About eleven o'clock a. change was apparent. The sky lost its crystal clearness and became a trifle hazy. Just about noon a white wall was seen bearing down from the northwest. The front of the storm was distinct and almost as clearly defined as a great sheet. In a few minutes a gale, moving at the rate of thirty or forty miles an hour, was sweeping the country; a full-fledged blizzard had supplanted the bright sunshine in a few minutes. The air was so completely filled with flying snow that it was impossible to see objects a short distance away.

One who witnessed the storm said: "The air was filled with whirling frost, fine as flour, so thick that it was impossible to see into it more than a rod or so, and no idea of direction could be kept. The snow would blow right through ordinary clothing, and it was impossible to face the wind because of intense cold." Another declared that there were twenty-four different currents of air to the cubic foot, each traveling in a different direction and each moving with the velocity of electricity.

All Tuesday night, Wednesday and Wednesday night the storm raged with unabated fury. Not until Thursday was there any let-up, and not until Friday was the storm over. Very few who were in places of safety when the storm struck braved the dangers of get-

ting anywhere else. The hotel at Marshall was filled with people as securely fastened within doors as though they had been in jail, and at Kiel's hotel in Lynd were other wayfarers awaiting the opportunity to get home. Besides those who perished, several Lyon county residents were caught on the prairie in the storm, and some were obliged to spend two or three days in deserted claim shanties or hay stacks.

Three of those who perished in the storm were residents of that part of the county which a year later was organized into Lincoln county. They were William Taylor, who had settled at Lake Benton in 1868; James Robinson and a Mr. Ebersold.

William Taylor had started from Lake Benton to mill at Redwood Falls with a load of grain. The storm came upon him when he had reached a point about where the village of Russell now stands. There he unhitched his team, overturned the sleigh box, and spent the night and part of the next day. Realizing that he must freeze if he remained where he was, Mr. Taylor turned loose one of the horses and, mounting the other, set out in an attempt to find a place of safety.

After the storm a searching party found the trail of the unfortunate man. The horse he had ridden was found on the Redwood river in Lyons township, from which place Mr. Taylor had traveled afoot with the storm in a southeasterly direction about forty miles. The searching party lost the trail about twenty miles from where he had left the Redwood. At one place he passed within ten feet of a claim shanty and at another he passed between a shanty and a hay stack, but owing to the dense snow, and possibly to the fact that at that time he was blinded, he passed them by. The body was found the

following winter by settlers from near Worthington at a point in northern Nobles county not far from the present village of Fulda.

Three others that met death in the storm were members of the Fox family. The family consisted of Mr. and Mrs. Fox, their six year old daughter and a nephew, a young man. They were on their way home to Lynd township from Redwood Falls, where they had been visiting, and became lost in the storm at a point on the east side of the Redwood river, not far from the site of the Catholic church of Marshall.

Becoming lost and not knowing where they were, the unfortunate people unhitched the oxen and overturned the wagon box to fix a shelter. It was of little value, however, and the family were soon drifted over with the snow. When the storm abated, on Saturday, the family was found. The young man and the little girl were dead and Mr. Fox was so severely frozen that he died on Monday. Mrs. Fox recovered.

The other deaths in Lyon county occurred not far from where Tracy is now situated. The victims were Asle Olson, who lived near Lake Sigel, and a man whose surname cannot be recalled but whose given name was Knute, who lived just over the line in Murray county. The men were returning from Lake Shetek with a load of wood when they lost their way and perished. When the storm subsided Olson's body was found a half mile from his home. The body of the other man was not found until March. It was discovered only a short distance south of Tracy, near the old fair grounds.

O. C. Gregg was one of those who had experience with the awful storm. In a speech delivered before the Old Settlers Society in February, 1885, he said:

On the morning of the seventh the wind completely lulled and ominous quiet prevailed. The speaker, in his tenderfooted innocence, thought winter had broken up. Without an overcoat he started down the river to visit Uncle Marcyes. While chatting there, all of a sudden came a wind from the northwest with a wailing sound such as he had never heard before—that terrible roar that precedes a genuine blizzard, but then new to him. Alarmed, fearful of some disturbance of the elements, he started home, accepting an overcoat from his host. He had hardly got started before the blizzard struck. A dense volume or sheet of blinding snow came upon him, crowded with terrible pressure by the northwest wind.

On reaching the timber he could barely see from tree to tree, so fiercely was the snow driven through the woods. As he merged from the timber to traverse the few rods to Kiel's hotel, he could not see his hand placed two feet from his eyes, but he managed to reach the house and gain entrance, where he found other wayfarers.

He never before knew what a storm was. Here for three days and three nights they were compelled to remain, during which time two others joined their number, each at different times gaining the door and falling into the room nearly exhausted. At these times it required the united force of two or three men to close the door against the storm.

W. P. Durst, then a boy seventeen years old living in Lake Marshall township, and his twelve year old brother were also caught in the storm and barely escaped with their lives. On the day of the great blizzard they had gone to the Lynd woods with an ox team for a load of fuel. They had secured their load and started home when the storm came upon them. The older boy placed his brother on the south side of the load and cautioned him to keep a hand constantly on the wood. He then took his place at the head of the team and literally felt his way through the blinding storm for six miles, arriving at last at the cabin of the Bellinghams. The smaller boy's toes were frozen, but he recovered.

Despite the ushering in of the year 1873 with the terrible January storm, the year opened auspiciously. The new railroad thawed out and regular train service was established to Marshall in

April." During the year the road was extended to Lake Kampeska and the transient population thus brought in made times lively. For two years train service was not maintained west of Marshall, except that every Saturday an engine and caboose made the trip to the western end of the line to hold the land grant.

With the opening of the railroad came hundreds of new settlers, and the settle-

<sup>9</sup>The first train to run within the limits of Lyon county on a regular schedule left New Ulm at nine o'clock in the morning of April 14, made the run of eighty miles in seven hours, and arrived on time at Marshall at four o'clock in the afternoon. H. B. Gary was conductor and Robert McConnell engineer. The train was made up of engine No. 26, a baggage car, coach, and twenty-five freight cars. John Ward, Marshall's first station agent, was on the platform to receive the first train.

<sup>10</sup>Those who were assessed for personal property in 1873 were as follows:

Lake Marshall—J. T. Bellingham, C. T. Bellingham, A. W. Bean, Samuel Benjamin, Charles Bellingham, Robert Bellingham, John W. Blake, David P. Billings, W. C. Bennett, J. Bagley, L. H. Cannon, Josiah Clark, Samuel Corliss, W. M. Coleman, John A. Coleman, Noble Cuyle, William Clemmens, Orson Drake, Michael Durst, M. V. Davidson, C. A. DeGraft, Everett & Co., Jennie Gates, J. C. Garnhart, J. Y. Hoffstot, A. J. Hamm, H. F. Hoyt, J. A. Hunter, W. A. Johnson, J. K. Johnson, W. R. Loveless, Alfred Loveless, E. B. Langdon, W. H. Langdon, L. W. Langdon, Langdon & Laythe, R. Monroe, M. B. Morse, C. F. Metcalf, M. Melon, L. B. Nichols, George E. Nichols, G. W. Payne, Alexander Sanders, Joseph Sanders, James Smith, S. N. Taylor, W. M. Todd, Turner & Loope, H. J. Tripp, A. O. Underhill, C. H. Upton, Peter Van Zant, G. R. Welch, M. E. Wilcox, C. H. Whitney, E. Woodbury, S. Webster, J. P. Watson, William Johnson & Co., J. W. Wilson.

Lynd—L. E. Bates, E. M. Barton, J. G. Bryan, E. P. Carlton, G. E. Cummins, W. A. Chapman, A. R. Cummins, James Cummins, L. H. Dunn, N. Davis, J. V. Eastman, T. S. Eastman, E. Fezler, O. C. Gregg, Oscar Hawes, J. N. Johnson, C. S. Johnson, J. K. Kyes, L. S. Kiel, James M. Lockey, G. W. Link, A. D. Morgan, L. Marcyes, C. Nelson, Andrew Nelson, T. T. Pierce, A. Ransom, Jacob Rouse, J. E. Starks, Smith & Ellis, A. C. Tucker, Z. O. Titus, Samuel Van Alstyne, William Van Buren, J. W. F. Williams, H. G. Ward, R. Waterman, H. R. Marcyes.

Lyons—William C. Adams, Frank Bills, Mrs. M. L. Buel, John E. Buel, A. Crossley, Scott Carlisle, Thomas Downie, E. B. Downie, A. C. Dam, M. A. Fifield, S. W. Galbraith, C. E. Goodell, G. A. Gill, F. C. Hicks, J. W. Hoagland, Charles Hildreth, G. W. Hicks, L. C. Hildreth, J. N. Harvey, L. P. Knapp, E. Lamb, A. W. Magandy, H. Mussler, Hugh Neill, William Neill, Owen Owens, Mrs. B. Roberts, Henry Shafer, R. Tuper, C. L. Van Fleet, Roland Weeks, R. Wait, G. Watson, C. A. Wright, William Witson.

Fairview—C. C. Beach, Norton Billings, John Brown, Tyler Carpenter, C. A. Edward, J. W. Elliott, B. C. Emery, Benona Gibbs, H. P. Gibbs, John Hanlon, Reuben Henshaw, H. G. Howard, Seth Johnson, Cornish Johnson, Harmon Lovelace, Thomas Lindsay, Owen Marron, W. S. Reynolds, George Spaulding, Luman Ticknor, William Robinson, Zenas Rank, Abraham Williams, Frank Wesson.

Nordland—Neils Anderson, Ole Anderson, A. Christopherson, S. Esperbrick, C. Endrussen, C. K. Eiversen, T. H. Flom, O. G. Groff, W. K. Hovden, Gunder Hanson, J. H. Hyglen, A. Halvorsen, J. B. Johnson, B. Johnson, A. Johnson, S. Jeremiahson, C. H. Lee, T. O. Loftsgarden, N. H. Myre, A. L. Marken, N. B. Nielson, Ole Olson, Halvor Olson, Ole O. Rear, A. O.

ments of Lyon county were indeed in a flourishing condition. That the country was developing rapidly is shown by the fact that in 1873 there were 393 personal property assessments, a considerable larger number than there had been in habitants three years before.<sup>10</sup>

The iron horse brought many of the comforts of life—neighbors, markets, and other adjuncts of civilization. The hardships of pioneer life seemed passing

Strand, A. P. Strand, Jard Stenersen, Leif Stenersen, K. Tolefson, J. O. Tanjen, T. Helgosen, Ole Ledell.

Lake Benton (southern Lincoln county)—A. Anderson, N. F. Berry, Edgar Bentley, C. H. Briffett, James Briffett, James Cooley, C. W. Cooley, Hans Grand, James Gillman, Benjamin Hadley, J. A. Hutetrans, S. G. James, A. G. Leach, Thomas Lemon, John Moore, W. M. Ross, Alexander Ross, F. M. Randall, Thomas Robinson, John Snyder, William Taylor.

First Precinct (Custer, Monroe, Amiret and Sodus)—Ole Anderson, Ole Amenson, John Avery, Ole Arnudson, O. H. Brevig, Patrick Curtin, C. Christopherson, A. Christensen, William Coburn, G. W. Donaldson, H. Drake, Rees Davis, Theodore Dickenson, J. H. Eastman, David Griffith, Lafayette Grover, C. S. Grover, W. Hanison, Eleazar Hall, E. Hall, Thomas M. Harris, R. H. Hughes, Ole Johnson, Johnson, Ole Johnson, Margaret Johnson, John S. Jones, Ogan Johnson, Triston Knudson, Neamiah Leavett, James Mitchell, Jr., James Mitchell, L. S. Mason, L. Mason Charles Mason, James Morgan, S. E. Morgan, W. H. Morgan, Nelson, Tolef Olson, Saulerious Olyn, Cornelius Olson, Robert Owens, Jacob Plymouth, A. Purves, Rees Price, H. Randall, Ole Rialson, Lewis Rialson, Horace Randall, Joseph Reese, G. S. Robinson, E. L. Starr, Martin See, D. Stafford, Landy Soward, William Shand, William Taylor, K. Trielson, S. S. Truax, B. B. Thomas, B. F. Thomas, George White, Enos Warn, S. E. Wallace, H. H. Williams, J. H. Williams, A. H. Wellman.

Second Precinct (Stanley, Lucas, Vallers and Clifton)—R. D. Barnes, Moses Barnes, C. A. Cook, F. Dillman, G. P. Ladenburgh, H. Newhouse, M. Wilson, P. J. Truax, Reuben Beasley, T. W. Castor, C. T. Taylor, James White, Ansen Anderson, J. R. Benjamin, Thomas Bell, Allend Christian, J. Durham, J. P. Brod, J. C. Lines, Antoine Meron, R. W. Price, Chris Peterson, Nels Rosvold, Michael Rosvold, F. Strosam, E. T. Thompson, James Wardrop, John Anderson, Knudt Anderson, Ole O. Brandon, Ole Olson, John O. Stensrud, M. K. Snartum.

Third Precinct (Grandview, Westerheim and Eidsvold)—Halvor Aadson, T. Aadson, Lewis Anderson, H. Burlingame, James Budson, T. J. Barber, A. L. Baldwin, C. Chamberlin, G. W. Carpenter, F. M. Collins, J. G. Cook, A. H. Chamberlin, Ole Esping, J. M. English, G. O. Gilbertson, Nels Hanson, John Istad, H. A. Irish, G. Johnson, Knud Knudson, Andrew Lee, George Lee, H. B. Loomis, O. McQuestion, William Markell, Isaac Olson, Nels Syversen.

Fourth Precinct (Rock Lake, Shelburne, Coon Creek and Island Lake)—John A. Van Fleet, Orville Persons, Cyrus L. Osborne, G. W. Linderman, Chester Bullock, Emery Hamm, Edson Weeks, J. T. Crouch, Lucius Town, J. and R. Town, J. W. Lester, William Livingston, Lyman Fellows, Dallas T. Burt, H. H. Hodgkins, J. R. Burgett, W. T. Ellis, Joseph Williams, John McKay, William Hamm.

Fifth Precinct (northern Lincoln county)—Frank Apfield, Frank Applebee, A. Anderson, Henry Bagley, James Collins, John Dall, Daniel Dennison, D. Danielson, Or. Gunderson, Hans Johnson, Jacob Jacobson, John Jacobson, John Kelley, Anton Martinson, Thomas Mackey, John Nelson, Daniel Omley, Orsman Oleson, M. S. Phillips, William Ramsey, Like Randall, Ole A. Rige, Benjamin Sampson, Helner Simpson, Ole Severson, Off. Shedland, Caw Telfson, Elias Van Eaton, M. L. Wood, Henry Worden.

away and hopes of a prosperous future budded and bloomed under the stimulus of the growing boom.

With the new order of things came two important changes in Lyon county: the creation of Lincoln county from the fifteen western townships and the removal of the county seat from Lynd to Marshall. The settlement of western Lyon county had been quite rapid and the people there demanded a county of their own. Marshall, the only railroad town in the county, became ambitious and demanded the county seat.

It is doubtful if either of these changes, singly, would have been authorized by vote of the people, but, together, they were put through without great difficulty. The electors of the future Lincoln county agreed to vote for Marshall for the county seat if the people of Marshall and vicinity would vote for the new county, and vice versa. The coalition was a strong one and the returns show that each party fulfilled its promises.

The bill for the creation of Lincoln county passed the Legislature in the spring of 1873. According to its provisions the fifteen western townships of Lyon county were set off and formed into Lincoln county, the county seat of which should be Marshfield, but the act should not become operative unless a majority of the voters of the whole of

Lyon county should ratify the act at the general election in November, 1873. Considering the importance of the question, the campaign was not an exceptionally hard fought one. Those favoring the creation of the new county won at the polls by a vote of 254 to 214. The vote by precincts was as follows:

PRECINCTS	For Lincoln County	Against Lincoln County
Canton (Lucas).....	20	1
Northeast District <sup>11</sup> .....	..	..
Upper Yellow Medicine <sup>12</sup> .....	..	18
Nordland.....	..	38
Grandview.....	18	3
Fairview.....	26	1
East Precinct <sup>13</sup> .....	18	..
Marshall (Lake Marshall).....	112	1
Lynd <sup>14</sup> .....	6	46
Lyons.....	6	27
Saratoga <sup>15</sup> .....	14	52
South District <sup>16</sup> .....	1	10
Lake Benton <sup>17</sup> .....	15	2
Yellow Bluff <sup>18</sup> .....	..	15
Marshfield <sup>19</sup> .....	18	..
Total.....	254	214 <sup>20</sup>

On December 5, 1873, Governor Horace Austin issued a proclamation declaring the county of Lincoln formed<sup>21</sup> and on that date Lyon county was reduced to its present area.<sup>22</sup>

The bill providing for the removal of the county seat from Lynd to Marshall passed the Legislature March 6, 1873. It too provided that the voters must

<sup>11</sup>Vallers and Westerheim.

<sup>12</sup>Eidsvold.

<sup>13</sup>Stanley and Clifton.

<sup>14</sup>Included also Island Lake and Coon Creek.

<sup>15</sup>Monroe, Custer, Amiret and Sodus.

<sup>16</sup>Rock Lake and Shelburne.

<sup>17</sup>Composed of two townships in southern Lincoln county.

<sup>18</sup>Composed of the northern tier of townships of Lincoln county.

<sup>19</sup>Composed of ten townships in central and southern Lincoln county.

<sup>20</sup>Thirty-nine votes of this total were worded "Against Division of County" instead of "Against Lincoln County."

<sup>21</sup>The first meeting of the Board of County Commissioners of Lincoln county was held at the home of M. S. Phillips in Marshfield in January, 1874, the commissioners being N. F. Berry, A. C. Burdick and Henry Bagley. They appointed the following first officers: Charles Marsh, auditor; John Jones, treasurer and superintendent of schools; William Ross, sheriff; M. L. Wood, register of deeds; John Snyder, judge of probate; A. C. Leach, county attorney; M. S. Phillips, clerk of court; James Berry, court commissioner; John Cooley, coroner; Mr. Taylor, surveyor; Ole Swenson and J. W. Lawton, justices of the peace; Benjamin Sampson and Frank Applebee, constables.

<sup>22</sup>In 1877 a petition was circulated in the northern part of Lincoln county and quite liberally signed, asking that Lincoln county be annexed to Lyon county, but the opposition defeated the prayer of the petitioners. The following spring a scheme was devised for the formation of a new county, composed of parts of Yellow Medicine, Lincoln and Lyon, with Canby as the county seat, but was abandoned.

ratify the act at the general election in November, 1873, before it should be put in force. The people of the Lynd settlement fought for the honor of holding the seat of government, but they were overwhelmed. The Lincoln county country voted almost solidly for Marshall, as did the people in the vicinity of Marshall and in the country to the north of that village.

Many votes were won for Marshall on the promise that a tract of land should be given for county purposes and that there would be furnished, free of cost, for a period of ten years, buildings for county offices and court purposes.<sup>23</sup> The *Prairie Schooner*, published at Marshall, on October 25, 1873, said: "When any one tells you that the people of Marshall are in favor of building county buildings at the county expense, brand it as a lie. Marshall proposes to furnish all buildings necessary and suitable for county purposes just as long as the county sees fit to occupy the same; and the county will not be taxed one cent for buildings if the county seat is moved to this place."

<sup>23</sup>A legal document, dated October 28, 1873, made the promise binding and was in the following words: "Received a bond running to the county of Lyon, signed by John W. Blake, Charles H. Whitney, D. Wilcox, J. Bagley, W. Wakeman, Coleman & Company, M. E. Wilcox, R. J. Monroe, L. B. Nichols, J. W. Williams and S. Webster, properly acknowledged, conditioned in the penal sum of \$2000, to furnish to said Lyon county offices or buildings for county

At the election Marshall won over Lynd by a vote of 397 to 101, the vote by precincts being as follows:

PRECINCTS	For Removal	Against Removal
Canton (Lucas).....	21	..
Northeast District.....	16	..
Upper Yellow Medicine..	18	..
Nordland.....	17	21
Grandview.....	20	1
Fairview.....	27	..
East Precinct.....	18	..
Marshall (Lake Marshall)	115	1
Lynd.....	14	38
Lyons.....	27	14
Saratoga.....	54	18
South District.....	8	1
Lake Benton.....	16	1
Yellow Bluff.....	9	6
Marshallfield.....	17	..
Total.....	397	101

By proclamation of Governor Horace Austin, dated December 5, 1873, Marshall was declared to be the county seat of Lyon county. The county commissioners met for the first time in the new seat of government January 24, 1874, and the county officers began conducting business there soon after.

officers, county commissioners and district court for the period of ten years, and the bond of J. W. Blake, properly executed, conditioned in the penal sum of \$1000, to deed said county certain described lots in the village of Marshall for county purposes, both bonds conditional upon the removal of the county seat to Marshall, and request that the county commissioners will accept the same on behalf of said county."

## CHAPTER V.

### THE GRASSHOPPER SCOURGE—1873-1876.

NOW come the dark days of Lyon county's history—the grasshopper days. For several years, beginning with 1873, grasshoppers, or Rocky Mountain locusts, swept down upon the country in countless millions, devouring the crops and bringing disaster to nearly every resident. The people of Lyon county, in common with those of all Southwestern Minnesota, suffered as few pioneers of any country ever suffered. Adversity followed adversity. The frowns of fortune overwhelmed those who had come with such high hopes the preceding years and cast them into the slough of despond. The picture could hardly be painted too dark.

The country became bankrupt. Immigration ceased; migration began. All who could mortgaged their property and many left the county. Some got into such straitened circumstances that they were literally without the means to pay their railway fare out of the county. It was impossible to make a living from the farm, and many sought work during the summer seasons in their old homes in the East; others attempted to earn a livelihood by trapping. In time land became valueless; it could not be sold

or mortgaged. After the first or second year eastern capitalists refused to consider loans in the grasshopper infested country.

Prosperous as Lyon county is today, one can imagine the suffering a series of almost total crop failures would bring. Picture, then, a settlement of some two thousand people with practically no means—people who had come because they were poor and because they believed the new country offered opportunities for securing a home and a competence—devastated by a scourge which took away the only means of earning a living. Such were the conditions in the times about which we are now to tell.

The people who had come the preceding year set to work with a will to break out the prairie land, and great were the expectations for the crop of 1873, the first crop of any size planted in the county.<sup>1</sup> The grain grew beautifully during the spring months; the faith in the soil was justified. Everybody was enthusiastic over the prospects. Then came the plague.

The grasshoppers first made their appearance in Lyon county about the seventeenth of June, 1873, and the

<sup>1</sup>The acreage sown to grain in 1873 was 1983, nearly three times as large as that of the year before. Of the total acreage, 1139 were in wheat, 330 in oats, 319 in

corn, 54 in barley, 36 in buckwheat, 85 in potatoes, 10 in beans, 2 in sorghum, and 8 in other products.

county was not entirely free from them during the remainder of the season. Their arrival was first made known by the appearance of the sky; the sun seemed to have lost some of its brilliance, as though darkened by clouds of fine specks floating high in the air. Some believed that the specks were the fluff from cottonwood seeds. They kept increasing in number, and after awhile a few scattering ones began falling to the earth, where they were found to be grasshoppers, or Rocky Mountain locusts—forerunners of an army that devastated this part of the country and resulted in the retardation of its settlement for many years.<sup>2</sup>

The invading hordes feasted upon the growing grain and gardens and did great damage. In the Saratoga settlement along the Cottonwood in southeastern Lyon county they were particularly voracious and left practically no grain. Along the Redwood, also, they brought destruction to crops, but there were some parts of the county that were not visited.<sup>3</sup> Most of the grasshoppers left after a few weeks, but enough were left and deposited their eggs during the months of August and September to make certain that the county would be infested the next year.<sup>4</sup> The harvest, of course, was light, but good yields were reported in the few communities that had not been visited.

In addition to the grasshopper dev-

astation, the panic which held the country in its grip in 1873 added to the hard times which followed. The loss of crops left many families in destitute circumstances, and there was some suffering during the next winter.

The state authorities took prompt action to relieve the suffering in the frontier counties. Petitions from the stricken districts were poured into the Legislature, asking appropriations for relief. Realizing the gravity of the situation, the Minnesota law-making body, late in January, 1874, appropriated \$5000 for the relief of the destitute and enacted a law extending the time of payment of personal property taxes until November 1 in the counties of Jackson, Cottonwood, Murray, Nobles, Rock, Watonwan, Lyon and Lac qui Parle.<sup>5</sup>

Lyon county did not receive much benefit from the state aid, owing largely to local pride. In accordance with the custom of pioneer journals to report nothing that would tend to retard settlement, the local newspaper reported fair crops. A perusal of the files of the *Prairie Schooner* for 1873 discloses not a word of the grasshopper visitation of that year. Many people of the county denied the existence of destitution and denounced those who sent out requests for aid.

For the purpose of ascertaining the condition of the people of the county a

<sup>2</sup>The grasshoppers were first noticed by a small party of picnickers at Watson's grove in Lynd township. Their attention was attracted by the sudden clouding of the sun on a clear, bright day. There appeared to be a great cloud that was described as resembling a sheet of dull silver. For some time the cloud moved about in circular form and gradually neared the earth. As it came closer its animation was observed and before long the whole cloud settled upon the earth. These first arrivals did not extend farther north than the Lynd settlement and many residents were skeptical of the stories told of the invasion. A party of Marshall people was deputized to investigate and went up to the Lynd settlement. When they reached the Redwood river at the place then known as the Muzzy flat their progress was stopped. The horses refused to approach the usual fording place, and there before them, covering a space twenty rods wide and for a considerable distance along the bank, the locusts were piled up two inches deep, a moving, undulating

mass of animation. The insects had there piled up by the million and where they covered stumps and brush they gave the appearance of being several feet deep.

<sup>3</sup>The damage to crops in 1873 in Minnesota was officially estimated at \$3,034,000.

<sup>4</sup>Eggs were deposited preferably in solid ground and to a depth of from one-half to one inch. The tail of the female grasshopper is a hard, bony, cone-shaped substance, and this was easily bored into the solid ground and the eggs deposited.

<sup>5</sup>"The bill postponing the collection of taxes on personal property in Lyon and several other southwestern counties passed the Legislature a little too late to benefit many taxpayers of this county, as most of them paid all taxes against them prior to the first of this month, to prevent extra cost."—*Prairie Schooner*, February 19, 1874.

mass meeting was held at Marshall on the last day of January, 1874.<sup>6</sup> It was the sense of that meeting that there were no persons in Lyon county in actual want and a resolution was passed denouncing the reports that had been sent out to that effect. Another resolution was passed to the effect that Lyon county would be able to take care of any case of destitution that might arise, without outside aid. The committee that reported the resolution was composed of J. W. Blake, Jacob Rouse, J. G. Bryan, O. C. Gregg and J. H. Buchanan. The meeting ascertained, however, that some families had moved in from the grasshopper devastated districts who would probably want seed grain in the spring, and the governor and Legislature were petitioned to make a just distribution of funds for free seed grain when it was needed.

The people of southern Lyon county took exception to these optimistic resolutions of the Marshall meeting. On February 17 a mass meeting attended by two hundred people was held at Saratoga station. The opinion of those people was that there were many people in the southern part of the county that needed substantial aid at once, that much would be needed before another crop could be raised, that they were at that moment in pressing need of bread, meat and clothing, and would be later of seed grain. Committees were appointed to canvass the community and report to the Board of County Commissioners.

Before the matter was taken up by the county officials, in February a subscription paper was circulated and

\$92 raised for relief. A disbursement committee on February 17 reported that \$37.62 of this amount had been distributed among the needy, mostly in the Saratoga country.

The county was without funds to take care of the needy and it was obliged to pledge its faith to one of the Marshall merchants to raise by taxation and pay back the sum of \$100 and interest advanced in supplies. The following resolution—a forceful reminder of the dark days of Lyon county's history—was passed by the Board of County Commissioners February 24, 1874:

Resolved that the faith of the county is hereby pledged to William Everett & Company to levy a special tax and to pay them one hundred and seventeen dollars and have the same placed upon the next roll and collected with the other county taxes in consideration that they shall advance to the county one hundred dollars for the relief of the destitute of the county, provided that the said William Everett & Company shall furnish provisions upon the requisition of the commissioners to the amount not more than one hundred dollars and if less than said amount, *pro rata*.

The following resolution passed relative to disbursing aid to the destitute: Resolved

First. That the applicant shall be a resident of this county.

Second. That there shall be no tea, coffee, sugar, spirits, molasses or fruits furnished.

Third. No person shall be furnished who has more stock than one team and one cow.

Fourth. No exception to the above save in case of sickness.

Fifth. The circumstances of the applicant must be set forth in an affidavit before aid is given.

Sixth. This aid shall be disbursed by William Everett & Company upon the order of James Mitchell, Jr., A. D. Morgan and W. M. Pierce, relief commissioners.

The people of Lyon county were finally forced to admit that they must have state aid and made application for a portion of the \$5000 appropriated. S. S. Truax, of the Saratoga settlement, received \$250 from the governor early

<sup>6</sup>"We, the undersigned, do hereby request that a meeting of the citizens of the county be held at Congregational Hall in Marshall at two o'clock p. m. Saturday, January 31, for the purpose of more definitely ascertaining whether there are any destitute persons in Lyon county, and if so, whether there are any more than can be provided for by the county. A general attendance is requested, particularly of

those who may have knowledge of any destitution in any part of the county. (Signed): J. W. Blake, S. Webster, Wilbur Coleman, Stanley Addison, C. H. Whitney, C. W. Andrews, G. E. Nichols, M. V. Davidson, S. V. Groesbeck, E. B. Jewett, M. E. Wilcox, J. A. Coleman, W. M. Todd, L. B. Nichols, J. P. Watson, W. Wakeman, J. W. Williams."

in March and distributed it among the needy.

It was early learned that many farmers would not have grain for seeding purposes in the spring of 1874, and the Legislature in February appropriated \$25,000 for supplying the want. Lyon county's share, 1128 bushels, was received in March and the distribution was completed early in April. The committee that had charge of this work was composed of S. S. Truax, Jacob Rouse and J. W. Blake. The demand for the grain was so great that each applicant received only a part of the grain asked for.<sup>7</sup> The grain, all wheat, was distributed to the farmers of the county as follows: Lake Marshall, 102 bushels; Lynd, 102; Lyons, 102; Saratoga (Monroe, Custer, Sodus and Amiret), 318; Rock Lake, 30; East Precinct (Stanley and Clifton), 30; Canton (Lucas), 78; Northeast Precinct (Vallers and Westerheim), 42; Upper Yellow Medicine (Eidsvold), 66; Nordland, 96; Grandview, 96; Fairview, 66.

If there had been a belief that the grasshopper scourge was to be only a temporary blight on the prospects of Lyon county, it was rudely dispelled. The visitation of 1873 was as nothing compared with what followed. The story of the years to follow is one of heartrending misery. From Manitoba to Texas the grasshoppers brought desolation and suffering in 1874, the visitation being general along the whole frontier. Especially destructive were

they in Southwestern Minnesota and in Kansas and Nebraska.

A large acreage was sown in Lyon county in the spring of 1874, there being 4245 acres sown to wheat alone.<sup>8</sup> Then came anxious days. The grasshopper eggs which had been deposited the year before began to hatch during the early days of May.<sup>9</sup> While the pests had been considered numerous the year before, there were now more than ten times as many. The appetites of the youngsters were good, and they began their ravages as soon as the first tender blades of grain appeared. Whole fields were stripped entirely bare in those parts of the county where the hoppers were most numerous, notably along the Cottonwood in the Saratoga country and along the Redwood in the Lynd country.

Had the ravages of the native hoppers been the only damage, the county could have borne the infliction, for there were portions in which little or no damage was done. During the closing days of June most of the Lyon county hatch departed. Several days were spent in swarming and collecting, and then they rose in vast clouds, filling the air as far as the eye could reach, and sailed away to discover new worlds to conquer. During this period, each day from ten o'clock in the morning until three in the afternoon, the air was filled with the winged emigrants. With their departure it was hoped the ravages of the year were at an end, but it was not to be.

During the early days of July came

<sup>7</sup> "We do not know the number of applications from different parts of the state for seed wheat, nor the extent of the territory to be supplied, nor the rules governing the distribution, but it appears to us that this county should have at least three times the amount of seed wheat that has been apportioned."—Prairie Schooner, March 19, 1874.

<sup>8</sup> The wheat acreage in 1874 by precincts was as follows: Nordland, 236; Lake Marshall, 323  $\frac{1}{4}$ ; 109-41 (Custer), 433  $\frac{1}{2}$ ; Upper Yellow Medicine (Eidsvold), 141  $\frac{1}{2}$ ; Lyons, 457  $\frac{1}{2}$ ; Canton (Lucas), 516  $\frac{1}{2}$ ; Fairview, 456; Lynd, 546; 111-40 (Clifton), 112; Madison (Amiret), 282  $\frac{1}{2}$ ; 110-43 and 111-43 (Island Lake and Coon Creek), 69  $\frac{1}{2}$ ; 112-40, 113-41

and 113-42 (Stanley, Vallers and Westerheim), 299; 109-42 (Rock Lake), 122; 110-41 (Sodus), 250.

<sup>9</sup> The process of hatching was interesting. In each nest, a half inch or more below the surface of the ground, invariably laid in hard earth, were from twenty to fifty eggs. When the sun warmed the ground sufficiently to hatch the eggs, the pithy covering of the nest popped off and a squirmy mass of little yellow hoppers poured out. Each was encased in a sort of shell or skin, which it immediately began to pull off. Then, after taking a moment's view of the world, each little hopper hopped away in search of something to eat. At birth they were about a quarter of an inch long and had no wings, but these developed rapidly.

an invasion of "foreign" hoppers from the southern counties, which made it evident that the county was not to escape with the damage done by the native pests. They appeared in cloud-like formations, drifting with the wind, sometimes entirely disappearing, and again returning with a change of wind. While the depredations before had been committed only where the hatch had been, the invaders now attacked fields in parts of the county theretofore unmolested and some fields were literally eaten bare to the roots. Still the damage was not total, and before the middle of July the army had almost entirely disappeared.

At this time, when it was hoped the pests had departed for good, the *Prairie Schooner* estimated the damage:

First. From Coburg [Amiret], along and near the Cottonwood river, to the southern boundary of the county and west to Lake Yankton, information received indicates that on an average two-thirds of the wheat and oats sown have been destroyed and much injury done to corn and potatoes.

Second. A strip of country about three miles wide and extending from Lake Marshall on the east to the Redwood river on the west, including Upper Lynd, will average about half a crop of wheat and oats.

Third. The balance of the county, including principally that portion lying northeast of the railroad as far down as Lake Marshall and northwest of the Redwood river, will average at least seven-eighths of a crop.

Taking the whole county together, we believe there will be from two-thirds to three-fourths as much wheat and oats and seven-eighths as much corn and potatoes as there would have been had we not been visited by the grasshopper plague. . . . Some farms in the county have been totally stripped of everything in the shape of crops; and on the other hand there are many farms which promise abundant yield of every kind of crop, not having been damaged to the least extent by grasshoppers.

Before the paper which contained this estimate was put to press (July 16) the editor of the *Prairie Schooner* penned this qualification:

Later—It is of no use to estimate crops before harvest. Yesterday clouds of grasshoppers were passing over from north to south, and as we go to press word has come that they have made a descent on the Yellow Medicine

and at Rock Lake, sections heretofore untouched.

The invasion of July 15 was the worst of the season and resulted in almost total annihilation of crops in the Rock Lake and Yellow Medicine countries—communities which had escaped before. Before they departed those parts of the county were literally alive with the voracious insects. And what havoc they wrought! So thick was the air with the flying pests that at times the sun was obscured. They appeared to the people below like a vast cloud, sweeping sometimes in one direction, sometimes in another—always with the wind, but never traveling far to the west or northwest.

At evening when they came down near the earth, the noise they made was like a roaring wind. Those that alighted on the prairies seemed to know where the grain fields and gardens were and gathered in them from all directions. Every cornstalk bent to the earth with their weight. The noise they made eating could be heard from quite a distance and resembled that which might have been made by hundreds of hogs turned into the fields. In fact, such was the destruction that within a few hours after they came down whole fields of corn and small grain were as completely harvested as though they had been cut with a reaper and hauled away. It was a discouraging sight.

After gorging themselves with the crops, the grasshoppers sometimes piled up in the fields and along the roads to a depth of one or two feet. Horses could hardly be driven through them. Stories have been told of railway trains becoming blockaded by the pests so as to be unable to move until the insects were shoveled from the track.

The last invasion was not of long duration, although grasshoppers in di-

minished numbers remained until August. Fortunately, they departed without depositing their eggs in Lyon county, although eggs were left in counties to the east of Lyon.

The greatest damage was to small grain. Many fields were entirely destroyed and yielded nothing to the acre. The wheat that was threshed—according to a thresher who operated in all parts of the county—averaged nine and one-half bushels per acre and oats nineteen bushels. Gardens were almost entirely destroyed; corn and potatoes, which constituted only a small part of the acreage, were a fair crop.<sup>10</sup>

This second successive crop failure was a terrible blow. A great many who had not been hard pressed by the conditions in 1873 were now reduced to the common level; their savings had been spent and they had no income. Those who were not compelled to live on charity were compelled to practise most rigid economy. Hay furnished the fuel; potatoes, pumpkins and squashes—a few vegetables left by the hoppers—supplied the bulk of the food. Meat was not on the bill of fare, except for those who could use a gun and bag the prairie chickens and ducks that were in great abundance. In this manner a number of the settlers were obliged to pass the winter. They bore their trials more cheerfully than might have been expected and made preparations to try their luck again next year.

The question naturally arises: Why did the people of Lyon county stay in a country in which the grasshoppers wrought such damage? It is doubtful if many would have remained could they have looked ahead and foreseen what they still had to go through, for

this was not the end of the scourge by any means. A few discouraged ones did depart for their former homes. All who could went away each summer to work in the harvest fields of more fortunate communities and earn enough to supply their absolute needs.

The majority stayed with their claims and weathered the storms of adversity. Hope was abundant that each year's visitation would be the last. The fertility of the soil had been demonstrated, and it was known that once the country was free from the pests, it would become one of the richest spots in the West. The settlers had invested all their accumulations of former years in improvements, and to desert the country meant that they must go as paupers.

Before continuing the account of the grasshopper scourge, let us consider a few other items that occurred in 1874 which throw a light on conditions of that day.

The one railroad in the county was not in operation from February 16 to April 8, due to snow blockades and the fact that its operation would not be a paying investment. Again the next winter the line was not operated regularly and for ten weeks prior to April 13, 1875, not a train was run in the county.

The assessment for 1874 shows that the value of personal property was \$120,384, divided among 525 residents. There were in the county 495 horses, 2690 cattle, 31 mules, 336 sheep and 356 wagons and buggies.

Despite the fact that the grasshoppers were doing most of the harvesting, a fair association was organized during this period and a county fair held. The first meeting to bring about organi-

<sup>10</sup>According to the report of the commissioner of statistics, the loss of the several crops in twenty-eight counties of Minnesota in 1874 was as follows: Wheat,

2,646,802 bushels; oats, 1,816,733 bushels; corn, 738,415 bushels; barley, 58,962 bushels; potatoes, 221,454 bushels; flax seed, 52,833 bushels.



AN EARLY DAY MAP

Lyon County As It Appeared in 1874, From a Map Published in a State Atlas That Year.



zation was held in December, 1873, in a little room that had been partitioned off from the old company store building in Marshall. The preliminary steps were taken at that time and on January 31, 1874, the Lyon County Agricultural Society was organized. The first officers were as follows: J. G. Bryan, president; C. H. Whitney, secretary; E. B. Jewett, treasurer; S. Webster, J. H. Buchanan, O. C. Gregg, R. D. Barnes, G. Watson, C. H. Bullock, James Morgan, R. H. Price, F. R. Holritz, John Ilstad, Ole O. Brenna and T. J. Barber, vice presidents; J. W. Blake, T. W. Castor, G. S. Robinson, J. W. Hoagland and Jacob Rouse, executive committee.

The first fair was held at Marshall in October, 1874, and was declared to be a success, several hundred people being in attendance. There were many exhibits, although the premiums were not liberal.<sup>11</sup>

In the summer of 1874 came an Indian scare that created some little excitement in western Lyon county—the result, doubtless, of a practical joke.

On Saturday, July 18, three Norwegian families who lived on the Sioux river near Medary arrived in the Lake Benton settlement, driving their flocks and herds with them. They brought the alarming intelligence that Fort Wadsworth, Dakota, had been captured by Indians, who had massacred two hundred whites; that the village of Flandreau was in flames, that the people of Medary and Flandreau and elsewhere along the Sioux were fleeing the country, and that the redskins were on their way to Lake Benton, where they expected to arrive the next night.

The report created consternation in the isolated settlement on Lake Benton. The news flew from house to house and there was great commotion. Some of the settlers gathered at the place where now the village of Lake Benton is situated and held a council of war. The majority favored investigating the report before deserting their homes, but six families hastily packed a few things, set out in hasty retreat for the east, alarmed all the people along the route, and reached Lynd before their fears were calmed.

Another council was held at Marshall, where it was decided to investigate the rumor. John Snyder and William Taylor rode to Flandreau, twenty-five miles distant, and found all quiet along the Sioux. Upon their return the alarmed people declared the war over. Within a few days those who had so precipitously fled returned to their homes.

The winter of 1874-75 was a severe one, punctuated with numerous blizzards. The lives of two Lyon county people were sacrificed to the winter storms that season.

One of the victims was Henry Gibbs, a resident of Fairview township. He and his wife had spent the day visiting at a neighbor's and in the evening started home with their ox team. One of the dreaded prairie storms suddenly came upon them and they lost their way and drifted with the storm until their wagon broke down in a slough in Stanley township.

Mr. and Mrs. Gibbs arranged a wind-break with the wagon box and prepared

<sup>11</sup>Those who received premiums at the first county fair were C. H. Bullock, D. P. Billings, Charles Bellingham, J. W. Dickey, S. Webster, B. C. Emery, A. Emmerson, J. M. Loekey, C. H. Whitney, Norton Billings, Seth Johnson, Ben Johnson, J. G. Bryan, E. Jewett, C. Jewett, H. C. Simmons, J. W. Blake, C. A. Edwards, Alfred Edwards, H. P. Gibbs, G. A. Gill, William Robinson, Z. O. Titus, A. Barrett, G. Watson, J. Bagley, Nathan Davis, C. Kennedy, M. B. Morse, O. A. Drake, J. W. Hoagland, William Living-

ston, A. E. Watkins, J. H. Buchanan, Owen Marron, Henry Schaffer, L. Ticknor, H. Lovelace, H. J. Tripp, Blake Watson, Coleman & Company, B. A. Grubb, A. W. Bean, J. W. Williams, Pierce & Wakeman, Prairie Schooner, Mrs. C. A. Edwards, Mrs. E. B. Jewett, Mrs. D. P. Billings, Mrs. J. Bagley, Mrs. H. C. Simmons, Mrs. H. P. Gibbs, Mrs. A. W. Bean, Mrs. H. Lovelace, Mrs. C. Kennedy, Mrs. Seth Johnson, Mrs. Z. O. Titus, Mrs. G. A. Gill, Miss Bryan, Miss Kate Watson, Mrs. Clemens and Mrs. Mott.

themselves as best they might to spend the night. For two nights and one day the storm raged as only the blizzards of the Northwest could in those days, and the unfortunate people were imprisoned in their illy prepared refuge during all of that time. When the weather had sufficiently cleared to see, Mr. Gibbs made his way to a house and sent aid to his wife. He was so badly frozen that he died soon afterward. Mrs. Gibbs was rescued from her perilous plight and recovered, although one of her feet had to be partially amputated.

The other victim was Thomas T. Pierce, of Lynd township, who met death in the storm of January 8, 1875. Mr. Pierce, who was an elderly man, had started from the home of a neighbor the day before the storm for his camp. He did not arrive at his destination and searching parties were immediately organized. It was more than two weeks later when his dead body was found on the shore of Dead Coon lake. He was frozen stiff and was lying on his face. Mr. Pierce had traveled many long miles in the storm, a part of the way through a section of the county almost wholly uninhabited.

Although the losses occasioned by the grasshoppers in 1874 were greater than the year before, there had been also a much larger acreage sown and considerable grain had been saved and marketed. There were not many cases of destitution in the county during the winter of 1874-75<sup>12</sup> and no aid was requested from the state for their relief. The United States government in a small way granted aid to those who re-

<sup>12</sup>"I have heard of only three or four cases of destitution in Lyon county this winter, though there may be more."—G. M. Durst in *Prairie Schooner*, February 19, 1875.

<sup>13</sup>The act was passed March 1, 1875, and provided for the extension of time of payment of personal property taxes to November 1 in the counties of Martin, Jackson, Nobles, Rock, Murray, Cottonwood, Watonwan, Renville, Lyon and parts of Blue Earth, Faribault and Brown. In order to secure the exten-

quested it. In March, 1875, H. Paulding, assistant surgeon of the United States army, superintended the distribution of army clothing and rations to those who applied in the counties of Lyon and Lincoln. Again the Legislature granted an extension of time for the payment of taxes in some of the devastated counties and, of course, Lyon county was among the number.<sup>13</sup>

Notwithstanding the terrible experiences of the two preceding years, the farmers determined to put in a crop in 1875. The ground had been prepared, but the farmers were without seed grain and without the means to purchase it.<sup>14</sup> The Legislature came to their rescue with an appropriation of \$75,000, the act providing for the distribution of seed grain to that amount, with certain provisions for its repayment. The money market was constricted and the state was not able to secure the cash to purchase more than \$50,000 worth of grain.

The distribution was conducted under the supervision of a State Board of Commissioners and a local board was named in each county. Lyon county's share was \$1500, all furnished in wheat. The Lyon county committee of distribution was composed of W. M. Pierce, James Mitchell and H. T. Oakland, and each precinct had a committee to determine who should be supplied. With the seed received from the state and that which was in the county, there was enough to seed a large part of the prepared land in Lyon county.

Days of anxiety followed the appearance of the grain above the ground.

sion it was necessary for the residents to give proof that they were unable to pay their taxes because of loss of crop in 1874 from grasshoppers or hail.

<sup>14</sup>"I have been on a tour of three or four days among the farmers of this county and find from actual observation that there are a great many who will be unable to seed their land unless they get aid from some source."—Samuel Carroll in *Prairie Schooner*, November 5, 1874.

Would the grasshopper scourge again come with its ruin and desolation? As the season advanced the people with deep concern scanned the skies for the appearance of their old enemy. As eggs had not been deposited in Lyon county the preceding season, there were no young hoppers, and the only apprehension was an invasion by the "foreigners."

The county was practically free from the pests until early July, although before that time they were reported active in other parts of Southwestern Minnesota. The settlers kept track of the movements of the grasshoppers as they would have those of an invading army of soldiers. They knew that only by chance would they escape. They felt as though the sword of Damocles were suspended over them, ready to fall at any moment.

The damage done in Lyon county in 1875 was by the Minnesota valley hatch. The army was not so numerous as the year before, nor did the pests eat so ravenously as formerly. They appeared to be a degenerate breed and many died after depositing their eggs. The farmers waged war on the enemy by the use of fire, tar and other legalized instruments.<sup>15</sup>

In individual cases the loss of crops was quite severe, but generally in Lyon county the damage was slight and a big

percentage of the crop was harvested.<sup>16</sup> But the dangers of the season were not yet over. During the entire week beginning August 31 there was a continual downpour of rain, which did much damage to grain in stack and shock. Blight injured some of the wheat, and instead of grading No. 1 it was second and third grades.

Conditions during the winter of 1875-76 were so much better than they had been during the two other winters of the scourge that aid from outside was not needed, and the county was able to supply its own seed for the next crop.

The census of 1875 gave Lyon county a population of 2543. Of this number 711 were men over twenty-one years old and 863 were children between the ages of five and twenty-one years. The population by precincts was as follows:<sup>17</sup>

Eidsvold.....	99
Fairview.....	175
Grandview.....	150
Lake Marshall.....	397
Lucas.....	116
Lynd.....	225
Lyons.....	152
Madison (Amiret).....	158
Monroe.....	181
Nordland.....	208
Custer <sup>18</sup> .....	166
Clifton.....	52
Stanley.....	83
Sodus.....	114
Vallers and Westerheim.....	104
Rock Lake and Shelburne.....	92
Coon Creek and Island Lake.....	71
Total.....	2543

bubbled over when describing conditions in 1875. The following item from the paper of August 13 of that year is not in reality a truthful portrayal of the state of affairs:

"We hear it reported down East that we are all eaten out by grasshoppers around Marshall this year. Such stories are at the opposite extreme of the fact, for we are harvesting the biggest crop ever harvested in this county. . . . We can lose half a crop here and then beat their best crops. Thirty bushels to the acre for wheat will be a very common crop around Marshall this season, and we have fields of oats that stand seven or eight feet high, so thick that a reaper can hardly run through them. . . . We have not a hopper more than we want for chicken feed around here and are happy in the brilliant prospects."

<sup>17</sup>The population of nearby counties in 1875 was as follows: Lac qui Parle, 1428; Yellow Medicine, 2484; Redwood, 2982; Cottonwood, 2870; Murray, 1329; Pipestone, 4.

<sup>18</sup>Only the ten first named were organized townships and had been named.

<sup>15</sup>There was really very little that the settlers could do to destroy or check the pests, although many schemes were tried. Nothing availed against the invading hordes, but in the case of the native hoppers the farmers waged a more or less successful war by the use of tar. "Hopperdozers," a sort of drag made of sheet iron and wood, would be covered with tar and dragged over the ground. The young hoppers would be caught in the tar and destroyed. Another scheme was to prevent prairie fires during the fall months, conserving the grass until the hoppers had hatched in the spring. Then on a given day the country would be burned over and the pests destroyed. Ditches would be dug and the hoppers driven into them and burned; scoop nets were used, but little headway could be made with them. In some of the counties bounties were paid for their capture. In seven such counties 58,019 bushels were captured, upon which bounties aggregating \$76,788.42 were paid; still no diminution was noticed in the damage done.

<sup>16</sup>The Prairie Schooner, which even in the darkest hours gave glowing accounts of conditions, fairly

Lyon and Lincoln counties, which before had been attached to Redwood county for judicial purposes, were separated from the mother county by act of the Legislature of 1875. The first district court was held at Marshall June 13, 1876.<sup>19</sup>

Another event of 1876 was the placing on the market of the railroad lands. In August the company opened an office at Marshall and the first of the granted lands passed to private ownership that year. These were sold for one-fifth down and the balance in payments at seven per cent interest.

Grasshoppers brought destruction to crops again in 1876. During May the destroying agents hatched out in those portions of the county where eggs had been deposited the year before, notably in the Rock Lake district and around the newly founded village of Tracy. Late in May south winds brought in a few full grown hoppers, but they remained only a short time.

During the entire month of June the young hoppers continued their depredations in the southern part of the county. A correspondent from Tracy on June 23 said: "The grasshoppers have destroyed most of the grain and our trade is principally butter and produce." A resident of Rock Lake wrote at the same time: "The hoppers are doing all the mischief they can." The other parts of the county suffered little damage in the early part of the season. Then was repeated the experience of former years.

Vast clouds of the pests swooped down upon the county early in July and for several days feasted on the crops.

They were of a roving disposition and did not remain in any one location any great length of time. The Marshall Messenger, which had succeeded the Prairie Schooner, told of the invasion in its issue of July 7, 1876:

The grasshoppers have been on a bender for the last few days. While looking toward the sun in the middle of the day the sight presents the appearance of a million swarms of bees. They are lighting and flying all the time. There is not a farmer in this vicinity who can predict what his prospects are for a harvest this fall. They are coming down in many places, but are very unsettled in their conclusions about location.

Again, on Thursday, July 20, came the agents of destruction in countless numbers and attacked the fields in all parts of the county. They remained all day Friday, feasting, and on the following day all departed for the south. Oats, barley, corn, vegetables, and all crops except wheat were almost wholly destroyed; wheat, the big crop, by some strange turn of fate, was only a partial loss. The grain that was left was quickly cut and put out of the way of danger.

The last invasion of the year came on Sunday morning, August 6, out of the northwest. The grasshoppers, with excellent appetites, covered about two townships, remained a few days, and flew away with the wind, most of them to the northwest. Wheat was then in the shock and proved dry eating, so the invaders attacked the corn fields and made a clean sweep of the crop in the territory invaded. Only a few eggs were deposited during the season, but the ground was peppered with them in a belt extending from Martin county north to Kandiyohi county.

<sup>19</sup>The jurors who served at the first term of court in Lyon county were as follows:

Grand Jurors—J. B. Greenslitt, G. E. Cummins, B. F. Link, L. S. Kiel, H. G. Howard, O. Marron, W. L. Watson, Gustave Jacobson, N. Warn, Zenas Rank, G. W. Linderman, E. B. Downie, H. D. Frink, C. H. Richardson, H. Mussler, I. P. Farrington, Olof Pehrson, M. M. Marshall, J. W. Blake, W. M. Todd, John N. Johnson, O. A. Drake.

Petit Jurors—Fred Gley, Jacob Rouse, S. E. Morgan, J. Lawrence, W. H. Cook, A. Ransom, D. Monroe, P. Kiltz, R. M. Addison, C. A. Cook, A. Williams, A. Lee, S. Van Alstine, William Rich, A. Bates, J. Owens, N. Webster, S. Johnson, J. Sanders, J. M. English, H. H. Welch, R. H. Price, A. R. Cummins, T. S. Downie.

There was no disguising the fact that Lyon county had met another damaging setback. Many who had fought the scourge so long gave up and quit trying to raise crops; some left the county. The prospects were indeed discouraging. The grasshoppers had again deposited their eggs in neighboring counties, and there seemed little prospect that the country would ever be free from them. Many did not give up, however, but determined to fight to a successful end or meet utter failure in the attempt. The Messenger on March 2, 1877, said: "Our farmers are making ready, with the clear grit that has become chronic during the grasshopper afflictions, to sow all they can get seed for."

The Legislature of 1877 took measures to care for the devastated counties. One hundred thousand dollars were appropriated to be used in bounties to pay for the destruction of grasshoppers and their eggs, \$75,000 to furnish seed grain,<sup>20</sup> and another sum for a relief fund. Some Lyon county farmers were able to purchase seed, and grain so shipped in came without transportation charges by the railroad company. Lyon

county's share of the appropriation for seed was \$3840.90, the applicants being given their choice of wheat, corn or peas. There were 177 applications, so that each received an average of \$21.70 worth of grain.

A "grasshopper congress" was held at Marshall March 13, 1877, and was largely attended. Means of contending with the common enemy were discussed and plans were laid for burning the prairies on a given day. In accordance with a proclamation of Governor John S. Pillsbury, Thursday, April 26, 1877, was set aside as a day for fasting and prayer, and on that day religious services were held throughout the state and deliverance from the scourge was asked.

Whether or not these means assisted in the deliverance is not certain, but certain it is that the grasshopper scourge, so far as Lyon county was concerned, ended in 1876. Thereafter for two or three years the pests in small numbers visited the county but did practically no harm. Grasshoppers had struck terror to the hearts of Lyon county people for the last time.

<sup>20</sup>The law provided for the repayment of this money by those receiving the grain; in case it was not paid back the county was bound to make payment to the state. Applicants were obliged to furnish affidavits

as to their condition, and the county commissioners acted as a board to determine the worthiness of the applicants.



## CHAPTER VI.

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### RECONSTRUCTION PERIOD—1877-1881.

HENCEFORTH the story of Lyon county is one of advancement.

The calamitous days are past. No longer do the grasshoppers threaten the very existence of the settlement; no longer is it found necessary to solicit aid for the relief of the inhabitants. The days of such adversity have become only a memory. It must not be understood that this change was wrought in a day, for it was not. Trials and tribulations were yet to assail those who had borne so much and so long, but times were on the mend, and the year 1877 ushered in the reconstruction era. People began anew the work of progress that had been interrupted when the grasshoppers came and placed a mortgage on the county in the summer of 1873.

In some respects the people of Lyon county were in better condition than they had been before the scourge. Most of those who had filed upon government land in the early seventies now had title to their homes—and land began to have a value. A few had not met with great losses during the terrible scourge and were already in position to

begin the forward march. Many others, however, found it necessary to free themselves from debt before the effect of the more prosperous times became apparent.

The annual dread of grasshopper visitation was again felt in the summer of 1877, and this time the settlers were agreeably disappointed. The season was admirably adapted to two ends: the best possible development of small grain and the worst possible development of the locusts. The cool, rainy weather of the spring and early summer seemed to have been sent on purpose to give wheat and other small grain a rapid and healthy growth and at the same time give the grasshoppers a slow and feeble development.<sup>1</sup>

A few of the pests hatched out on the sunny slopes in May, but they were so few in number and so unlike their voracious ancestors that no damage resulted.<sup>2</sup> The local press reported in the latter part of June that there had not been reported a single field of grain in Lyon county perceptibly injured by grasshoppers. About the middle of July they were seen on the wing, and occa-

<sup>1</sup>"The frequent rains we are having this spring increases our prospects for a good wheat crop. It seems now as if we might slip through this year into prosperous times again. Our only fear of grasshoppers is from flying ones, and any other part of the country is as much in the way of that as we are. We have a large acreage of crops and with a good harvest will be happy once more."—Marshall Messenger, May 18, 1877.

<sup>2</sup>Contributing largely to the unexpected good fortune was a little red parasite, which destroyed the grasshopper eggs in the nests in the fall and early spring months. Later the parasites attacked the young hoppers, loading down their frail wings and carcasses until it was almost impossible for them to fly. Bushels of the pests died before they developed sufficiently to do damage.

sionally a few came down, but the damage they did was practically nothing.

As the season advanced it became evident that unless the grasshoppers came Lyon county would produce an enormous crop.<sup>3</sup> The grasshoppers did not come and by the middle of August the harvest was completed—the first crop in years had been saved. It was an enormous one, yields of forty bushels of wheat per acre being frequently reported. During the fall months—up to January 1—there were shipped from the Marshall station 309 cars, containing 109,007 bushels of wheat. The grain was all number one and brought good prices.

It was a time of jubilee! Every resident seemed imbued with new life. When the golden grain came pouring in, business men began increasing their stocks; farmers began improving their farms and putting their lands in readiness for the next crop; Lyon county was again inhabited by people who thought life worth living.

For the first time since the coming of

the grasshoppers, immigrants arrived in Lyon county in 1877. They began arriving as soon as it became evident that the crop was safe and that the county could produce something besides the flying pests. Many came prepared to build on their lands, and the lumber yards were unable to replace their stocks fast enough to meet the demand. Nearly all the government lands had been filed upon by this time and the newcomers turned to the railroad lands, which had been placed on the market the year before.<sup>4</sup>

Among the immigrants of 1877 were fifty Icelanders, who arrived in August direct from their northern homes and located in northwestern Lyon county. A few of this nationality had settled in the vicinity a year or two before, the first having been Gunlauger Peterson, who came in 1875. Others joined the colony later, giving to Lyon county a very desirable class of citizens.<sup>5</sup>

On March 5, 1877, a bill was passed by the Legislature authorizing Lyon county to issue bonds not to exceed

<sup>3</sup>"The grain crop here is simply immense and our farmers who were able to seed their farms last spring have a pretty sure prospect of comfort and plenty ahead."—*Messenger*, July 29, 1877.

<sup>4</sup>The following items from the columns of the *Marshall Messenger* give an idea of the immigration in the fall of 1877:

"Land hunters arrive on every train. Business has just begun in this locality, all because the grasshopper danger is past."—August 24.

"The town is full of strangers these days—land hunters mostly. The fame of our fertile prairies has spread over the land."—September 28.

"Everything seems to indicate a big rush of immigration next spring. Even now, not far from the heels of winter, there is a respectable rush of a very desirable class of homeseekers distributing themselves from this point over the whole county. Nearly all who visit us remain as settlers."—October 12.

"Approaching cold weather does not seem to perceptibly check the rush of land hunters to this part of the state. Every train is filled with men anxious for a few acres of our rich prairie land. The railroad company is selling considerable more land than it expected to, and our vacant sections are fast filling up with actual settlers. This makes us feel well and will greatly help county revenues soon."—November 23.

<sup>5</sup>The people of the United States have but little acquaintance with the natives of Iceland, the little island in the Arctic circle. They are found in only a few places in America, and one of the two principal colonies of the United States is that in northwestern Lyon county, overlapping into Lincoln and Yellow Medicine counties, with Minnesota as the central point. The other American colonies are at Pembina, North

Dakota, and at New Iceland, near Winnipeg, in Manitoba.

In the early seventies Icelanders founded settlements in the Muskoko district of Ontario and in Nova Scotia. These were only temporary abiding places, the Northenmen moving in 1875 to the western shore of Lake Winnipeg. There they founded New Iceland, now the largest settlement in the New World. Winnipeg is the center of Icelandic wealth and culture in America. Several thousand reside there permanently and most of the emigrants from Iceland go there before scattering to the farming districts.

The colony in Lyon county was founded, as described in the text, in 1877. There were two hundred arrivals from Iceland to the settlement about Minnesota in 1879, and others came later. The Icelandic settlement now comprises about one thousand people.

Rev. Fall Thorinsson led a party of colonists from Manitoba in 1879 and located them in Pembina county, North Dakota, where they grew in numbers and wealth until now they form the next largest Icelandic colony in the New World.

Of the Lyon county Icelanders the *Marshall News-Messenger* of May 24, 1904, said:

"The colony in this section of Minnesota has flourished, though, in a measure, through affiliation with other nationalities, the semblance of colonization has been lost. One noticeable characteristic of the Icelanders is their appreciation of the public school system of their adopted country and their thirst for knowledge and English education. During several years past the graduating classes of the Marshall High School have included students of Icelandic birth and descent, and most of these have continued their education at the University of Minnesota, at normal schools, and other institutions, and subsequently engaged in the professions."

\$10,000 for the purpose of paying the county indebtedness. During the grasshopper days the county, as well as the people living in it, had run behind financially and county orders were a slow sale at sixty cents on the dollar.<sup>6</sup> Another event of the year 1877 was the establishment of train service on the Winona & St. Peter railroad between Marshall and the state line, giving the newly founded village of Minneota and the people of northwestern Lyon county benefits theretofore denied.

The abundant crop harvested in 1877 and the belief that the grasshopper days were a thing of the past were elements that brought a boom in 1878. To all parts of Southwestern Minnesota and many parts of Dakota Territory the settlers flocked that spring. Before the wagon roads became passable the settlers came by train, the great rush beginning early in February.<sup>7</sup> Five hotels in Marshall were unable to take care of the crowds of land hungry men, and still they poured in.

About the middle of April the newcomers began to arrive in the well-remembered "prairie schooners;" or canvas-covered wagons, and these continued to arrive in great and undiminished numbers until about the first of June. Twenty, forty, sixty, per day they came, in many cases accompanied by droves of cattle, horses and sheep, household goods and farming implements.<sup>8</sup> Not all of these stopped in Lyon county, but a great many did.

<sup>6</sup>"The county was organized about four years too soon and before it was able to support a county government. In an early time we were unfortunate in having many floating criminals brought in by the building of the railroad, and the effectual prosecution has put an end to crime but left us in debt. The railroad owns half the land of the county and has never paid a tax, the state owns about a tenth and pays no taxes, and the United States owns three-tenths, untaxable. There is little personal property to tax, and one-tenth of the land here can only pay current expenses."—Messenger, March 23, 1877.

<sup>7</sup>The local paper on February 15 reported the arrival of about one hundred immigrants during the preceding week. One month later it declared the rush not only continued but increased. On March 22

As a general thing the newcomers were a well-to-do class. The first ones secured homesteads, but late in April it was announced at the land office that there was not a piece of government land in Lyon county that had not been filed on; there were a few pieces that had been abandoned, but they were not very desirable. Thereafter the arrivals purchased railroad lands and improved farms that the grasshopper sufferers had placed on the market.

A great amount of land was broken out<sup>9</sup> and new buildings made their appearance in all parts of the county. To make these improvements the new residents swamped the local lumber dealers with orders. Day after day lumber-laden wagon trains could be seen wending their way across the prairies from the villages of Tracy, Marshall and Minneota to the new-found homes. The implement dealers also reaped a harvest supplying machinery to the new residents.

It is a pity that we cannot record a continuation of prosperous times, for the people of Lyon county were certainly entitled to the smiles of fortune. Two weeks of excessive hot weather in the first half of July, followed by a week of excessive rains, brought a crop failure. Wheat, which was still the big crop, was damaged most and because of its quality brought a low price;<sup>10</sup> corn, oats and vegetables fared better. Close times financially again prevailed.

The Lyon County Old Settlers Asso-

ciation stated that two full passenger coaches of immigrants were brought to the county daily by the railroad.

<sup>8</sup>"Look out almost any time and you will see streaks of white across our green prairies. They are strings of emigrant schooners come West to gain homes and an independent future for their families. Still there is room for more."—Messenger, May 3, 1878.

<sup>9</sup>"You can travel north, south, east and west, and everywhere you go breaking teams are hard at work turning over our rich soil. It is impossible to estimate the number of acres that are being broken, but it will be immense."—Messenger, May 31, 1878.

<sup>10</sup>"There is no longer much doubt that the wheat crop has been injured nearly or quite one-half. Ten to fifteen bushels per acre will be a good crop this year."—Messenger, August 2, 1878.

ciation was organized September 30, 1878, those instrumental in the organization being J. W. Blake, C. H. Whitney, S. H. Mott, H. J. Tripp, Stanley Addison, W. M. Todd, S. Webster and C. L. Van Fleet. The first officers of the association were as follows: A. R. Cummins, president; C. L. Van Fleet, secretary; N. Cuyle, treasurer; Stanley Addison and C. H. Whitney, executive committee; J. W. Blake, orator; J. N. Johnson, historian; General Pierce, story teller.

Early in the season of 1879 prospects

for a big crop were flattering. Over 36,000 acres of land were sown, and fine weather in the spring months promised a bountiful harvest. But the crop was light. Wheat was blighted and the average yield was less than ten bushels per acre; corn, oats and barley did better. There were marketed in the county during the year 285,950 bushels of wheat.

The acreage sown to the different grains in 1879 and the personal property assessments of each precinct were as follows:

TOWNSHIPS	Wheat	Oats	Corn	Barley	Total Acres	Personal Property
Amiret.....	895	240	205	80	1463	\$12,489
Clifton.....	1013	316	168	50	1586	14,653
Custer.....	1158	288	134	74	1718	9,290
Eidsvold.....	1216	236	90	156	1551	24,681
Fairview.....	2687	499	149	53	3529	15,391
Grandview.....	946	178	122	125	1323	12,965
Lake Marshall.....	950	210	62	15	1248	74,130
Lucas.....	1812	403	182	48	2469	14,726
Lynd.....	5709	1130	216	50	7210	19,347
Lyons.....	1240	175	90	..	1573	..
Monroe.....	2069	393	275	21	2813	30,677
Nordland.....	1873	282	112	10	2291	14,217
Rock Lake.....	658	203	59	30	966	10,846
Sodus.....	1116	279	222	14	1662	11,797
Stanley.....	1624	280	142	31	2092	9,141
Vallers.....	571	626	21	2	765	5,965
Westerheim.....	1220	420	100	..	1758	1,468
Island Lake, Shelburne and Coon Creek.....	620	90	30	..	740	759
Total.....	27,377	6248	2379	659	36,457	\$282,551

Lyon county's second railroad, the branch of the Chicago & Northwestern west from Tracy, was built in 1879. This resulted in the founding of Balaton—and later of Garvin—and the rapid settlement and development of southern Lyon county.

The first rumor of the building of the new line came in January, when it was said the Northwestern would construct the road in an effort to "head off" the Southern Minnesota (Milwaukee), which

was being extended through the southwestern part of the state. At that time orders were issued for shipping to Tracy large quantities of railroad building material. Surveyors ran the line of the road in March and April.

Contracts were let in May and early in June construction was begun. It was intended to have the road ready for operation by the first of August, but a strike and the desertion of many of the workmen to the harvest fields delayed

matters and regular trains were not put in operation until September 29.

The construction of the railroad made times lively and there was a large increase in population. During the year 1879 emigrant cars to the number of 420 were unloaded at the various railway stations of Lyon county. Among the arrivals of the year were a number of Irish Catholics—the first of Bishop Ireland's colony—who settled in the vicinity of Minneota.<sup>11</sup>

Another life was sacrificed to the winter storms in Lyon county on December 16, 1879. The victim was Trule Knutson, who lived three and one-half miles southwest of Tracy. He had been assisting Ole Johnson move a house from the shore of Lake Sigel to Tracy and at sundown he started for his home, walking and driving a yoke of oxen. He was caught in the storm, lost his way, and perished. His body was not found for several days.

Lyon county harvested an excellent crop in 1880, as did all portions of Southwestern Minnesota, and more No. 1 wheat was raised than had ever been the case before. The county again became known as the "Land of Promise." The farmers were not to realize to the fullest extent the fruits of the bountiful harvest. Frequent and heavy rains in August made it impossible to finish stacking until about the middle of September, and threshing had hardly commenced when the memorable winter set in, preventing further operations. The next spring weather conditions were

no better, and a large part of the 1880 crop was not threshed until the next summer. It was impossible to market the grain that had been threshed because of impassable roads and the railroad blockade.

The federal census of 1880 gave Lyon county a population of 6257, an increase in five years of 3714 people, or 246 per cent. Of the fourteen counties comprising Southwestern Minnesota, only Brown had a greater population.<sup>12</sup> The population was divided as to sex, nationality and color as follows: Males, 3381; females, 2876; native born, 4558; foreign born, 1699; white, 6255; colored, 2. By precincts the population was as follows:

Amiret.....	282
Clifton.....	204
Coon Creek.....	106
Custer.....	293
Eidsvold.....	378
Fairview.....	287
Grandview.....	267
Island Lake.....	177
Lake Marshall.....	265
Lucas.....	226
Lynd.....	308
Lyons.....	226
Monroe.....	281
Nordland.....	343
Rock Lake.....	248
Shelburne.....	140
Sodus.....	213
Stanley.....	188
Vallers.....	146
Westerheim.....	283
Marshall.....	961
Minneota.....	113
Tracy.....	322
Total.....	6257

Before 1880 homesteaders of Lyon county were obliged to make the trip to Redwood Falls (to New Ulm prior to 1872) to make proof on their claims.

<sup>11</sup>An association of Irish Catholics was formed in Chicago in the spring of 1879, with a capital stock of \$100,000. The object was the colonization on western farms of people of that nationality who resided in eastern cities. Bishop Ireland had charge of the Minnesota and Dakota divisions and he at once made arrangements to plant one of his colonies in Lyon county.

The railroad lands of Eidsvold, Nordland, Grandview, Westerheim and Vallers townships were reserved and later purchased. In the two first named the Irish colonists were located, and a little later Catholics of other nationalities were brought to the other townships.

The first colonists located near Minneota and were under the spiritual charge of Father M. J. Hanley. The new arrivals were, as a rule, unskilled in farming pursuits and were not successful, and many engaged in other enterprises. In the early eighties there were great additions to Bishop Ireland's colony and it became an important factor in the history and development of Lyon county.

<sup>12</sup>The population of nearby counties in 1880 was as follows: Lac qui Parle, 4907; Yellow Medicine, 5884; Redwood, 5375; Murray, 3604; Pipestone, 2092; Lincoln, 2954.

With the rapid settlement of the country to the west, most of the business of the Redwood Falls land office came from Lyon and Lincoln counties, and an office was opened at Tracy on May 22, 1880. It was located there nine years. The offices at Benson, Tracy, Redwood Falls and Worthington<sup>13</sup> were consolidated February 28, 1889, and moved to Marshall, where the land office was located until July 1, 1903. Then there was a merger of the Marshall and St. Cloud offices and Lyon county lost the office.<sup>14</sup>

One of the dates from which time is reckoned in Lyon county is the winter of 1880-81—the season of Siberian frigidity. There have been worse storms than any that occurred that winter; for short periods of time there has been colder weather. But there never was a winter to compare with this one in duration, continued severity, depth of snow, and damage to property.

Blizzard followed blizzard. The railroads were blockaded for weeks and months at a time. Fuel and food were nearly exhausted. People burned green wood, fences, lumber, hay and grain and went without lights. In some places there was suffering for lack of food. Roads remained unbroken all winter and the farmers obtained their supplies from the villages by means of handsleds. Two lives were lost in Lyon county in the storms of that winter and several others were so badly frozen that amputation of limbs was necessary; many

others became lost in the storms and had thrilling experiences. The long, cold, boisterous, blizzardous, wearisome winter will never be forgotten by those who were then living in Lyon county.

Before the farmers had fairly started their fall work, while the grass was yet green and the insect world active, winter set in. Toward evening on Friday, October 15, the wind, which had been blowing from the north all day, brought with it an occasional flake of snow. When darkness came the wind and snow increased, and before midnight the elements were thoroughly aroused. Throughout the night the storm steadily increased, and when morning came its fury was such as had seldom been witnessed in the middle of the severest winters. Saturday forenoon the wind continued to blow with terrific violence, driving before it the rapidly falling snow with such force that few dared to venture out of doors. All day the blizzard raged, not calming down until nightfall. Saturday night the raging elements ceased their tempestuous frolic. Sunday the weather was calm, but cold and wintry. The fall of snow was great and the violent winds piled it in great mounds.<sup>15</sup>

The streets of Marshall, Tracy and Minneota were packed full, the banks in many places on the north side rising almost level with the second story windows and completely covering from sight some of the smaller buildings. The business houses in all three villages

<sup>13</sup>The Redwood Falls office was established in July, 1872, with Colonel B. F. Smith as register and Major W. H. Kelley as receiver. The Worthington office was the successor of the Brownsville office, established on the Mississippi river in 1854. It was moved to Chatfield in 1856, to Winnebago City in 1861, to Jackson in 1869, and to Worthington in 1874. Upon the removal from Worthington in 1889 C. P. Shepard was register and August Peterson receiver.

<sup>14</sup>The first officers at Tracy were George W. Warner, register, and John Lind, receiver, the latter being succeeded after several years' service by P. K. Weiser. Messrs. Warner and Weiser were in charge when the office was moved to Marshall in 1889. L. M. Lange succeeded George W. Warner as register November 1, 1889, and C. P. Shepard succeeded the latter February

16, 1894, and served until the removal. P. K. Weiser was succeeded as receiver August 1, 1889, by E. P. Freeman, he by M. E. Mathews in January, 1894, and George M. Laing took the office February 7, 1898. Mr. Laing died June 17, 1898, and C. F. Case served from July, 1898, until the removal from Marshall. *Id.*

<sup>15</sup>"Although this country has gained something of celebrity in the blizzard business, the oldest inhabitants were as much astonished as anybody at such a storm in October as we caught last Saturday and Sunday. This storm was unprecedented. Nobody knows how much snow fell, as it was gathered in drifts from nothing to thirty feet deep. It would pass for a first-class blizzard, and the loss to the county by it will foot up several thousand dollars."—*Messenger*, October 22, 1880.

were for the most part closed and the towns resembled Icelandic hamlets. The snow which fell in this initial storm did not entirely disappear until the following May.

So badly drifted was the snow that the railroad was completely blockaded, and from Friday, the fifteenth, until Saturday, the twenty-second, no trains were able to get through, although large forces of men were at work clearing the track. Even this short blockade resulted in a shortage of fuel. In the country damage because of the storm was great. It was the first and only blizzard experienced in the county in October, and, of course, the farmers were unprepared for it. The loss of stock throughout the county was considerable, many hogs and sheep, particularly, having been frozen to death.

The only death resulting in this October blizzard in the vicinity was that of Samuel Kile. He was with a threshing crew at Tom Brown's place north of Minneota. On the morning of the sixteenth he and others started for the barn to do the chores, and on the way to the barn Kile's hat was blown off. Despite the protests of the other men, he started in pursuit of the hat in the raging blizzard. That was the last seen of the man alive.

When it became apparent that Kile was lost, the men shouted and rang bells to guide him to safety and a diligent search was made. During the next three weeks searching parties scoured the entire neighborhood, dragged the Yellow Medicine river, and made every effort to locate the body. In the first part of November the body was found embedded in a snow drift, sixty rods northwest of the barn; his hat was found

one and one-half miles southeast from the place.<sup>16</sup>

There were several cases of severe freezing and many adventures in this remarkable storm. A Swede living near Ceresco was lost while going from his house to the barn and for three days wandered over the prairie. He was found thirty miles from home with both feet frozen. A son of Levi Craig, who lived near Amiret, had an exciting experience in the storm. He had gone to a neighbor's to get some matches and on the way home became lost. He came upon a wheat stack and, burrowing his way into it, remained there until Sunday morning. He reached home severely frozen.

For a short time after the initial storm the weather was calm but wintry. About the middle of November storms began to rage again, and wintry blasts continued from that time until late in April. For weeks at a time the people of Lyon county were absolutely isolated. They spent long weeks of weary waiting in the midst of the dreariest, gloomiest and most discouraging surroundings—waiting for the raising of the blockade and the arrival of the necessities of life, of which they were deprived. Because of the fuel and provision famine which ensued there was considerable suffering in parts of the county. Severe cold weather began November 16 and during the remainder of the month the thermometer frequently registered sub-zero.

Following is the story of the winter, told in brief chronological order, from the beginning of December until the breakup in the spring:

#### DECEMBER.

##### 2-3. Zero weather.

<sup>16</sup>Samuel Kile was a son of George and Barbara Kile, who lived over the line in Lincoln county. During the fall of 1880 he was employed with a threshing crew operating north of Minneota and was so employed when he met his death. Samuel Kile was a strong

young man and weighed about 180 pounds. At the time of his death he was eighteen years, eight months and eighteen days of age. He was a brother of Arthur J. Kile, who for many years has been a resident of Minneota.

4. Snow falling and drifting. Last train and mail for five days.

5-9. Below zero weather. Railroad blockade raised on the ninth.

10-15. Milder weather.

23. Last freight train of the winter arrived.

25. Ten days' railroad blockade begun.<sup>17</sup>

25-31. Extremely cold weather—thirty and thirty-five below zero—and blizzard.

26. Ole Norton lost in blizzard and so severely frozen that he died later.<sup>18</sup>

#### JANUARY.

4. First train in ten days arrived. Big mail receipts.

5. Another train ran.

6. Railroad blockaded

8. Snow-fighting train got over the line.

10. Road cleared and first mail received since January 5. No freight trains.

12. Twenty-four hour blizzard raged. One week railway blockade begun.

19. Last train from the east for three months arrived.

20. Train ran from Marshall to Watertown in the morning and returned to Tracy in the evening—the last train over the line until April

<sup>17</sup>"We haven't seen business more nearly at a standstill for some years than it was here several days this week. We suppose it is necessary to state that we have had no eastern trains this week. Just when we will have one again is a matter still under discussion."—Messenger, December 31, 1880.

<sup>18</sup>Ole Norton was thirty-two years old and lived alone in Vallery township. On the evening of December 26 he started out to go to the home of his brother, Michael Norton, a little over one-half mile away. The thermometer registered ten degrees below zero and the wind was blowing hard.

Mr. Norton passed a hay stack about thirty rods from his house and thereafter found it difficult to determine the directions. He continued on his way but soon became completely lost. After wandering about on the prairie two hours he again came to the same stack, but believed it to be another about two miles distant. He could see a few rods away the dim outline of what he took to be a house, and made an effort to reach it, but he could make little headway against the wind and returned to the stack. By this time his feet were freezing and to keep up the circulation of blood he began running around the hay stack.

Failing to get relief, Mr. Norton dug a hole in the stack, with the intention of seeking shelter therein. Progress was painfully slow, as his hands were benumbed and he had lost one of his gloves. He succeeded in making an opening only large enough for his legs, which he hoped to keep from freezing. The unfortunate man remained at the hay stack until daylight and then with great difficulty made his way to his house, which he found was only a few rods away. With greater difficulty he succeeded in building a fire.

Mr. Norton's cap was frozen to his head, but after awhile it thawed out enough to be removed. He got one of his boots off and found his feet were frozen solid. Becoming alarmed at his condition and not daring to remain alone while thawing out, Norton hobbled to his brother's house with one foot bare. There he was taken care of and hopes were entertained that his feet might be saved. Both feet were amputated below the knee on January 9 by Doctors Andrews and Farnsworth and Mr. Norton died on the twelfth. His experience in the storm was given by him substantially as recorded above.

<sup>19</sup>"During the past week Marshall has given a limited supply of fuel to the towns above and entirely exhausted her own supply. The former blockade was not broken long enough to get any freight through from the east and none of any consequence has arrived since the Christmas blockade. The last cordwood has been sold and the last of small coal has been sold. There is a plentiful supply of large hard coal in town,

19. Storm from the north. Fuel supply running short.<sup>19</sup>

21. Blizzard raging.

22. Still storming.

24. Railroad entirely covered with drifts, in places thirty or forty feet deep. Railroad has sublet the contract for carrying the mail between Sleepy Eye and Watertown, and mail from the west received.

26. Blizzard from the north.

27. Fuel famine at Minneota reported.<sup>20</sup>

30. Heavy snow storm at night.

31. Blizzard.

#### FEBRUARY.

1. Fuel nearly gone at Marshall.<sup>21</sup>

2. A little coal turned over to the dealer by Mr. Burchard, of Marshall, and sold in small lots.

3. Last overland mail for many days received. At evening began one of the worst storms of the winter, coming from the south-east. Lasted until the seventh.<sup>22</sup>

7. Mild weather and thaw after the storm subsided. Froze at night and crusted all the drifts.

8. Fuel famine serious. Breaking roads to Camden woods.<sup>23</sup>

which for use in cooking or parlor stoves requires to be broken up."—News, January 21, 1881.

<sup>20</sup>A. M. Chadburn, of Minneota, was in town yesterday and says the people of that town are suffering greatly from cold, that there has been neither wood nor coal there for a long time. He states that women and children and many of the men are compelled to lie in bed during the night and day in order to keep from freezing. Mr. Chadburn came down to see if he could secure any fuel, and finding a small quantity of coal and some green wood, he says the citizens will at once come here for a supply."—News, January 28, 1881.

<sup>21</sup>The only dry wood on sale at that time were a few cords that were hauled in from the Younania farm and sold at \$10 or \$11 per cord, and the supply was soon exhausted. What little hard coal there was sold for \$13.75 per ton.

<sup>22</sup>"From Thursday night of last week [February 3] until Monday morning of this [February 7], this locality was visited by the heaviest and worst snow storm the oldest inhabitant, much as he hates to admit it, ever saw here. . . . On this occasion we had both snow and wind in uncommon quantities. Instead of coming from the northwest, as most of our winter storms do, this one came from the southeast. While not very cold for a winter storm, the severe wind and drifting snow made it impossible most of the time to do anything out of doors, and nearly all business was at a standstill. When it cleared off the roads were in the worst possible condition. Drifts on top of drifts so perfectly impeded travel that during Monday very few teams ventured out, although the snow was soft and melting."—Messenger, February 11, 1881.

<sup>23</sup>"Tuesday morning [February 8] the citizens were notified to assemble at the land office to take action toward breaking out the roads leading to town from the settlers' farms. It was resolved that the first duty was to open the road to the Camden timber lands, ten miles distant, as many families were destitute of fuel. Rev. Liscomb stated that the wood-chopping party, which started in the morning, had progressed only two miles and returned to dinner, but had gone out again. The resolution was followed by immediate action, and half an hour later three or four teams and thirty or forty men were on the road to Camden. They reached the morning party about five miles out, where they had been met by a Camden party led by V. M. Smith, with a small load of flour from the mill. The entire party returned to town, announcing an open road to the timber land and the probability of a supply of wood the following day.

"An adjourned meeting was held at the land office in

9. Roads broken from Marshall to Ceresco, Amiret and other points. Farmers reported burning hay.

11. Severe blizzard from the north.

12. Blizzard all day. Measures for relief of destitute taken in Marshall.<sup>24</sup>

14. Suffering reported at Minneota for lack of fuel and provisions. Burning railroad fence posts.<sup>25</sup>

19. Ladies of Marshall raised money for supplies for the destitute.

22. Hard snow storm, the only one of any consequence for nearly a week. People of Grandview burning snow fences.<sup>26</sup>

24. Snow and south wind.

25. Blizzard from the south.

26. Blizzard from the northwest.

28. Mail received. Oats used for fuel.<sup>27</sup>

### MARCH.

1-3. Mild weather.

4. Fierce blizzard all day.

the evening. There was considerable discussion as to the opening of roads to other towns and out upon the prairies to the settlers. It was said that settlers were out of fuel and provisions and it was quite impossible for them to break the roads and get to town. Rev. Liscomb favored opening roads to the hay and straw stacks near town, as horses and cattle were suffering for food. It was finally agreed that gangs of men and teams should operate Wednesday on the roads to the northeast, north and southwest, and the following morning work was begun. It was decided that on Thursday a combined effort should be made to open the road south to Tracy, it being reported that the towns above and below were opening connecting roads, in order to get the mail and freight on the railroad."  
—News, February 11, 1881.

<sup>24</sup>February 12 a meeting was held in Marshall to devise means of relief for those who were suffering for lack of fuel or provisions because of the blockades and severe weather. It was the general opinion that relief should come from the county commissioners and a committee was appointed to look into the matter of destitute persons.

<sup>25</sup>"People at Minneota have received permission from the railroad company to dig up and burn all the fence posts, and Station Agent Davidson is having a perplexing time in their distribution. Only Coats' store has been open for three weeks past, because there has been no fuel to warm the stores. As yet only a few cases of actual suffering for want of provisions have come to light and these have been attended to. About a dozen teams went to the Camden timber Monday morning [February 14] and that night succeeded in bringing to town about eight cords of wood. It was tedious work and few teams could haul more than half a cord. Some who started with more had to leave part of it on the road. On Tuesday some fifteen teams went to the woods and brought in about ten cords. The wood sells here at \$7.00 per cord."  
—News, February 18, 1881.

<sup>26</sup>"While we in Grandview have been poorly off for fuel, our supply long since being exhausted, we have kept from suffering by the aid of the snow fences along the line of the railroad, and these are well-nigh exhausted; but we live as all our neighbors do, in hope. We have heard of no cases of suffering for want of worldly goods and but little sickness."  
—Grandview Correspondent, February 25, 1881.

<sup>27</sup>"Mr. Humphrey and others east of here are burning oats for fuel and say that a bushel a day supplies a stove. This makes a cheap fuel."  
—Messenger, March 4, 1881.

<sup>28</sup>"Marshall came very near getting out of kerosene oil some three weeks ago and our enterprising grocer of the Twin Cash Stores, Mr. Waldron, sent W. A. Crooker and his mules down to Mankato after a load. This was about the only team that would try to make the trip, and bets were made that he wouldn't be back here to celebrate the Fourth of July. But it is never

5. Beginning six days of fine weather. Supply of kerosene received at Marshall.<sup>28</sup>

9. Roads open between most of the settlements. Deep snows reported in Custer township.<sup>29</sup>

10. Rain, hail and snow storm began at night.

11. Blizzard all day.

12. Continued blizzard. Heavy snowfall.

13. Fair weather.

14. Blizzard began at noon.

17. Snow drifting.

24. Second load of express matter since December arrived overland from Sleepy Eye. Marshall people attack snow fences.<sup>30</sup>

30. Attempt made to open the railroad.<sup>31</sup>

31. Severest blizzard of the winter raged.<sup>32</sup>

### APRIL.

1-7. Spring weather. Shovelers working on snow drifts between Tracy and Marshall.<sup>33</sup>

6. Heavy mail overland from the east.

safe to bet on what Crooker and his mules can accomplish, and last Saturday [March 5] they hove in sight over the hill. The band instantly turned out with a long rope, to which were attached nearly a hundred boys, to help haul him into harbor. Having hitched on and got the Twin Cash proprietor on board, they refused to let go and made a grand street parade, thus giving glory to the event and a good advertisement to the Twin Cash Stores. We have plenty of oil here now and can give our neighbors some if needed. Crooker made the trip in about twelve days, but had to stop two days at Lake Marshall on account of a blizzard. Mr. Waldron very generously paid him \$14 more than agreed on to make up for the unexpected bad weather and other delays."  
—Messenger, March 11, 1881.

<sup>29</sup>"Most of the farmers are busy digging snow. Some have tunnels ten feet deep and forty feet long leading to their stables. We have seen a number of our neighbors going to mill with handsleds. Coal oil is very precious and the burning of tallow candles is considered a luxury. Mail is out of the question, which makes it very disagreeable for those who have distant sweethearts. Most of us are burning green wood, which is very hard on our patience."  
—Custer Correspondent, March 11, 1881.

<sup>30</sup>"Parties out of dry wood have lately been tearing down all the snow fences up this way for fuel. Green wood is plenty here yet, but high because of bad roads."  
—Messenger, March 25, 1881.

<sup>31</sup>"Superintendent Sanborn arrived here Wednesday [March 30] and proceeded to tear up things to heat the engine that has been stored here for several weeks and began work on the road between here and Tracy. As the company is now at work at both ends of the blockade and in the middle, we can hope to connect with the outside world in a few weeks. Later—This item was a little too previous. A slight change in the weather has delayed things some."  
—Messenger, April 1, 1881.

<sup>32</sup>"Wednesday evening [March 30] damp snow began to fall in this vicinity, with a constantly increasing wind, and by midnight the storm had assumed the title of blizzard. Thursday morning dawned upon the blizzard in full bloom and the old prophecy of March coming in like a lamb, sure to go out like a lion, was fully verified, for certainly no storm of the winter was more severe than that of the last day of March."  
—News, April 1, 1881.

<sup>33</sup>"Since the last blizzard, March 31, the weather has been putting on the air of spring, and the work of opening the railroad has rapidly progressed. Volunteer companies turned out here for two or three days, and the railroad company has since been hiring all the men they could get to shovel snow. The coal shed and other things that could be spared were chopped up for fuel to feed the engine that has been wintered here, and as long as that holds out fair progress will be made. The cuts are everywhere filled full, and the

7. Mail for the east sent out by way of Granite Falls. Marshall people burning lumber.<sup>34</sup> Began snowing at two o'clock.

8. Northeast blizzard and heavy snowfall.

11. Snowing.

12. North wind drifts snow.

13. Zero weather.

16. First night since early in November that ice did not form.

18. Railroad opened to Tracy and first train in three months—lacking two days—arrived.

19. Railroad opened to Marshall and freight train arrived at eleven o'clock in morning, bringing car load of wood. Two passenger trains also arrived, bringing first mail in two weeks. These were the first trains from the east to reach Marshall in exactly three months.

20. Railroad opened to Minneota, but no trains run.<sup>35</sup>

21. Floods washed out track and bridges and traffic on the railroad (after twenty-four hours' operation) was suspended until May 3.

The long winter of 1880-81 was over, but its results were not over, and after trains had been operated in Lyon county one day, the blockade was again in force by reason of floods and washouts, and no trains were run in the county until May 3.

The torrents of water from the melting snow overfilled the banks of the rivers, inundated the low lands, and carried away bridges and railroad tracks. Six bridges on the line of the Northwestern

between Sleepy Eye and Watertown were carried away and there were a dozen places where the track was washed out.

The melting snows began to cover the lower surfaces on April 20, but the overflow of the streams did not take place until the twenty-second. Floodtide was reached Sunday evening, April 24, and on the following day the waters began to recede. On the twenty-eighth the streams were so reduced as to be nearly within their banks again.

The losses in different parts of the county were considerable. The dam of the Redwood at the Camden mill was swept away, as was also one in Lyons township. The streets of Marshall were traveled in boats, and trips by boat were made from that village to points on the Minnesota river, part of the way over the inundated prairies. The bridges over the Redwood at Marshall were wrecked and several thousand feet of lumber and several small buildings were carried away. The loss in the village was estimated at \$5000.<sup>36</sup>

snow is almost as hard as ice in some places. As there is no snow plow here every foot of the cuts has to be shoveled out by hand. The work will therefore be slow and Tracy will not be reached before next week probably. At the Sleepy Eye end the drifts are much worse than here, and although as large a force as they can get is employed, their progress west is not rapid. If the road is open by the last of next week our largest expectations will be realized."—Messenger, April 8, 1881.

<sup>34</sup>"Considerable lumber is being burned here now, other fuel being scarce and high. Mr. Sullivan has been selling lumber for fuel at first cost."—News, April 8, 1881.

<sup>35</sup>A Minneota citizen, writing to the Marshall News of April 25, 1881, told of conditions at that point during the winter, as follows:

"... That although we have passed so far a very unpleasant winter and have suffered great inconveniences, there has been no loss of life or property in consequence of the severity of the weather. Our village has not known what it is to enjoy the luxuries of a good wood pile or well-filled coal bins during nearly the entire winter.

"Farmers about Minneota have fared worse than the people in town, in not having wood or coal, but better in having plenty of hay and straw to feed and burn. . . . A great many farmers have stables so located as to be completely covered over with snow. A large number have an opening only at the top and the farmers go down into their stables by means of a ladder, the animals being completely confined in a snow prison. We have heard of no instances of farmers having been out of fuel. . . . At one time there were three families that had nearly exhausted their supply of provisions during a stormy spell, but they were

soon supplied again and have suffered no inconveniences since.

"There has been no attempt to keep open the roads for teams except along the railroad track. Snowshoes and hand-sleds on wide runners have taken the place of horses and sleighs in this vicinity. On Tuesday of this week four men on snowshoes hauled a corpse on a hand-sled a distance of about ten miles to the burying ground of this place for interment. The corpse had been kept two or three weeks buried in a snowbank awaiting an opportunity for burial. Pleasant days during the past two months have been signaled in town by hundreds of feet of snowshoes. All seem to have fallen in with the Scandinavian idea of going to town on snowshoes and taking their goods home on hand-sleds or packing them on their backs.

"The stores of our town have suffered but little inconvenience as yet for supplies of provisions; at least they continue to serve their customers as usual."

<sup>36</sup>The Marshall News of April 29, 1881, told of the flood in the village as follows:

"The Second Street bridge, leading to the railroad, was not high or wide enough to carry off the surplus water. Almost as soon as the area between the street and Nichols' stable was filled, the water burst over the street, from between the bridge and the corner of the Merchants Exchange, cutting off communication for teams and pedestrians. At the same time Main Street at the lower bridge had been overflowed, cutting off communication in that direction. Early in the day water backed up between the railroad bridge and Main Street, soon cutting across the street and making a broad, deep and rapid current past the Bagley House, Watson's residence, and across to the bend of the river. This outburst relieved the main channel and saved the entire main street and its business blocks from inundation.



#### A PIONEER HOME

Log Cabin Erected on Section 4, Custer Township, in 1870, by Zibe Furgeson,  
and Purchased the Following Year by Benjamin B. Thomas. The  
Engraving is Made From a Painting.



The work of repairing the railroad and raising the blockade was put under way as soon as the waters permitted. The reconstruction crew, working from the east, reached Tracy May 1, and on the afternoon of the third Marshall was reached. The same evening a well-loaded freight train brought supplies to the several villages along the line and the next day passenger, mail and freight service were established. Train service on the branch west from Tracy was begun about the same time.

The long blockade was broken and the people of Lyon county were again able to purchase the necessities of life. The Marshall News of April 6 said:

Every store in town hung out its banner labeled "sugar" this week. The town has been without it for a week or two, along with many other things. Towns west of us have been much more destitute, very nearly approaching suffering in some cases. The docile coffeemill has furnished all the flour and meal of many families.

A gentleman living at Minneota wrote at the time of the arrival of the first train:

We have just received our first freight since January. The arrival of the train with the bridge carpenters was the signal for the citizens to turn out and run to the depot. The railroad company sent in a freight train right away after the work train. A joyful smile overspread the countenances of our citizens when they heard that Coats had some sugar on the train, and what a rush there was by the sweet-toothed members of our community!

Most of the 1880 grain crop was

threshed and marketed in the spring and summer following, and some of it was of good quality. Owing to the floods, the late season and blight, the wheat crop of 1881 was a failure. The local papers reported it as a half crop and estimated the yield at ten bushels per acre. Some of the other crops were fair and there was a good market for all produce.

In April, 1881, came the first Belgians and Hollanders to the Catholic colony of northwestern Lyon county. With these first arrivals, about seventy-five in number, came Father Cornelius, who did much toward the rapid settlement of the county. The new arrivals, who settled for the most part in Grandview township and the village of Ghent, were attracted by the advertising matter of the Catholic society and the report of one of their number who visited the county in 1880.<sup>37</sup>

The matter of the building of the Minneapolis & St. Louis railroad through Lyon county was a live issue in 1881. Surveys were made in the summer and bonds to aid in its construction were voted in several precincts of Redwood county. Late in September the railroad authorities submitted a proposition, by the terms of which they agreed to build through Lyon county provided the right of way was given and about \$30,000 in

"The street afforded a rapid watercourse from the News office, past the Bagley House, to the end of the street, and from the Merchants Exchange the water reached to the hill beyond the bridge. The passage of the water past the Bagley House and Watson's place to the river left the business part of town entirely surrounded by water and accessible only by boats. On Saturday [April 23] the high walks west of the News office and barber shop were carried away, leaving the Bagley House, Gary's building, Wetherbee's store, the marble works and Mrs. Farnsworth's building each surrounded by rapid currents of water, through which it was difficult to navigate boats. Temporary bridges were constructed on Monday to reach these points. All of the cellars on the south side of the street were flooded and stables and cattle buildings generally were abandoned.

"Previous to the thaw between forty and fifty boats had been constructed, and on Friday every boat and every apology for one were brought into requisition to ferry people to and from their homes and business places. A regular ferry was established between the Merchants Exchange and the bridge as long as the

bridge remained, and afterwards from the Exchange to the opposite shore. The water at this point formed a double current in the regular channel of the river and past the corner of the hotel, running at a speed of about a dozen miles an hour and making it difficult and dangerous to cross, and not a few narrow escapes from disaster occurred."

<sup>37</sup>In 1880 Angelus Van Hee and his son, Aime Van Hee, came from Belgium to locate a home for a colony in the New World. They came upon the request of Bishop Ireland and were accompanied by Peter Van Hee, of Liverpool, England. Angelus Van Hee and his son visited many parts of the country and found no place they liked better than Lyon county. They bought land on section 17, Grandview township, made some improvements thereon, and then returned to Belgium and reported favorably on the country.

As a result of this visit, the colony came in 1881, and there were many additions during several succeeding years. Among those who purchased farms in 1881 were David Van Hee, Mrs. Modest Van Hee, Messrs. De Rutter, Vandewoestyn, Decock, Vergote and Foulon.

bonds were voted to aid in the construction.

The people of Lyon county were eager to secure the road and at once made arrangements to vote the bonds. It was arranged that township bonds

should be issued and not all the townships were asked to contribute. Following is the list of townships that voted on the bond issue, the date of the election, the amount of bonds asked, and the result:

PRECINCTS	Date	Amount	For Bonds	Against Bonds
Lake Marshall.....	Oct. 18	\$13,900	176	2
Clifton.....	Oct. 21	1,800	21	0
Fairview.....	Oct. 25	3,800	18	5
Lynd.....	Oct. 29	4,200	28	3
Island Lake.....	Nov. 8	1,200	18	1
Grandview.....	Nov. 12	2,400	24	18
Stanley.....	Dec. 31	1,800	11	21
Nordland <sup>28</sup> .....	Dec. 31	1,200	..	..
Lyons.....	Mch. 21	2,400	28	19

Although enough bonds were voted, the road was not built, and in May, 1882, it was announced that the pro-

posed road had passed into other hands and that the line would not be constructed through Lyon county.

<sup>28</sup>Voted against the bonds.

## CHAPTER VII.

### THE AGE OF PROSPERITY 1882-1912.

FACTS supplying the context of preceding chapters lead to the conclusion that the people of Lyon county had passed through many years of hardships and bitter disappointments before a permanent condition of prosperity was reached. This long period of travail was punctuated by an occasional year that promised better times. In the earliest days the settlers contended with obstacles incident to the settlement of any new country, being far from railroads, markets, schools, churches, and the many institutions that in our present day civilization are considered necessary to the enjoyment of life.

The community had hardly emerged from its frontier state when the grasshopper scourge came with its terrifying inflictions, and the county received a setback which took years to overcome. Following the departure of the plague came several years devoted to the payment of debts contracted during the dark days and making a new start. During this reconstruction period were several years of partial crop failures because of weather conditions, and the age of prosperity did not begin until the year 1882.

An excellent crop of small grain was produced in 1882, the first crop in

several years that was secured and marketed without some discouraging feature. The result was a rise in the value of Lyon county farming lands and an influx of new settlers, who came to share in the prosperous times. During the fall months every train from the east brought landseekers, most of whom invested in railroad lands and remained as permanent settlers. "With no effort to force a boom," said the Marshall News in August, "one has fairly started. The railroad land office is daily disposing of land in the county and much deeded property is changing hands."

The following winter was another severe one. For thirty-four days prior to March 4 the railroad was blockaded so completely that not a train ran in the county. Another of the death-dealing winter storms occurred February 15 and 16, 1883, in which two more lives were added to the list of those sacrificed to the Storm King.

During the afternoon of the fifteenth the weather was calm and foggy. At a quarter after nine in the evening was heard the roaring, rumbling sound that gives warning of the approach of all storms entitled to the name blizzard. At half past nine it struck, moving with a velocity of thirty-five miles an hour. The blizzard raged until half past seven

the next evening, the thermometer during this time registering six to eight degrees below zero.

Luther C. Hildreth, thirty-five years of age, an early settler of Lyon county, lost his life in the terrible storm. He had been chopping wood at D. S. Burt's place, on the northwest quarter of section 24, Coon Creek township, a mile and a half from his own home, which was on the southeast quarter of section 22, of the same precinct. At eleven o'clock on the night of the storm Mr. Hildreth started for home and within a short time was lost. As subsequently learned by tracing his tracks, he passed quite near his own house and continued west to Lone Tree lake. Then he turned east, came to the Redwood river, and followed up its channel two miles. While in the river bed Mr. Hildreth endeavored to dig a hole in the snow, but failed and lost his mittens there.

Still clinging to the ax he carried, Mr. Hildreth left the river and proceeded in a meandering course to within a short distance of Balaton. The last half mile was made on his hands and knees part of the way, the tracks showing that he staggered when walking. The body was found on the eighteenth. He was lying on his back with his legs doubled under.

The other death was that of Annie Cain, nineteen years of age, who lived with her parents near Amiret. On the day the storm began she was visiting at the home of F. A. Woodruff and early in the evening started home. She became lost in the fog before the blizzard started and when the storm came up she battled with it for some time, but

finally succumbed. Miss Cain traveled six miles and sank down to her death about two hundred rods north of the house of Andrew Jackson. At one time in her travels she passed within thirty rods of that home. The young lady was thought to have remained at Woodruff's, and the fact that she had been lost in the storm was not known for two days. Her body was found on the eighteenth.

The year 1883 witnessed a large immigration to Lyon county. In March came a colony of fifty French settlers from Kankakee county, Illinois, who settled in the Ghent neighborhood. They came in a train of thirty-seven cars and brought farming implements and stock with them.<sup>1</sup> There were also many arrivals from Belgium and Holland, who came as a result of a trip to the old country by Father Cornelius in January, 1883.<sup>2</sup>

Many new farm houses were erected during the year, the villages increased in population, and the country took on an air of prosperity. Good crops were the rule and nearly a million bushels of grain were harvested. The acreage sown to the several cereals, the total yield and the average yield per acre for 1883 were as follows:

GRAIN	Acres Sown	Total Yield	Average Yield
Wheat.....	26,307	437,371	16.51
Corn.....	3,541	20,820	5.86
Oats.....	13,110	402,188	36.77
Barley.....	2,210	46,130	20.87
Total.....	45,168	906,509	

<sup>1</sup>The French colony came as a result of the reports of the county made by Messrs. Letourneau and Regnier, who came in the summer of 1882. After visiting many parts of Southwestern Minnesota, they decided to locate in the Ghent neighborhood. Their representations were responsible for the arrivals of 1883. Among the first of the French settlers were Messrs. Paradis and sons, Suprenant-Lord, Lord Paradis, Antony Paradis, Suprenant-Prairie, Metty, Carron, Lebeau, Padnaud, Duchene, Nevell and Emilien Suprenant.

<sup>2</sup>Among these arrivals from the old country were Father Y. Devos, who became pastor at Ghent; Messrs. J. Lambert, Princen, Schreibers, Haerts, Maertens, Depuydt, Messine, Dicken, Sandy, Claves, Peters, Van den Bogaerde, Crombez, Baumans, Delmeule, Hendrick, Riviere, DeReu, Van den Abeele, Van Prundel, Vrnkenlen, Engels, Dobbeldere, Blauwette, Browers and Maenhoudt.

Early in 1884 came the promise of a new railroad for Lyon county. It was to be built by a company styled the Duluth, North Shore & Southwestern, of which Herman E. Long was president and Louis H. Greiser was secretary. The "proposition," which was the inevitable forerunner of railroad building in the early days, was submitted to the people of Lyon county at a mass meeting held at Marshall on January 26. The company desired a bonus of county bonds to the amount of \$40,000, to be delivered in case the road was completed to Marshall not later than September 1, 1885.

Most of the people of Lyon county were enthusiastically in favor of bonding for the road, which was to traverse the county in a general north and south direction, and at another meeting on January 30 petitions for calling a special election to vote on the bonds were signed. The people of Marshall, particularly, were active in canvassing the county for signatures to the petition and within a short time petitions favoring the calling of the election were presented to the county authorities from every township, each signed by at least two local officers and twelve other freeholders. The requested action was taken by the Board of County Commissioners and a special election called for February 23.

Tracy was not on the line of the proposed road and the people of that village were opposed to the granting of bonds. A lively campaign in opposition ensued, participated in largely by the Chicago & Northwestern interests. John Lind, later governor of Minnesota, was at the time a resident of Tracy and took a prominent part in the campaign against the bond issue, particularly to keep the matter from coming to a vote. An injunction, forbidding the county

auditor to post and publish the notices of election, was granted by Judge Webber, of the district court. When the injunction papers were served, however, the notices had been posted and the call for the election had been turned over to the printers. The election was held in all precincts except Monroe, Eidsvold and Nordland, the election officers of those precincts refusing to open the polls upon advice of those opposing the bonds.

To carry the election it was necessary not only that a majority of the electors voting should favor the issue, but also that a majority of the townships should record a favorable vote. The bonds were carried by a vote of 724 to 156, and thirteen of the seventeen townships voting gave majorities in favor. The vote by precincts was as follows:

PRECINCTS	For Bonds	Against Bonds
Amiret.....	15	3
Clifton.....	36	0
Coon Creek.....	15	0
Custer.....	2	42
Fairview.....	48	0
Grandview.....	46	6
Island Lake.....	39	0
Lake Marshall.....	58	0
Lucas.....	27	1
Lynd.....	72	0
Lyons.....	51	0
Marshall.....	208	0
Rock Lake.....	15	36
Shelburne.....	20	3
Sodus.....	38	16
Stanley.....	25	5
Vallers.....	6	15
Westerheim.....	3	29
Total.....	724	156

After the election the people of Tracy again appealed to the court and secured a temporary restraining order, forbidding the county authorities to deliver the bonds and the railroad officials from applying for them. In district court on May 29 Judge Webber made the in-

junction permanent.<sup>3</sup> Before this action was taken, however, it became known that the railroad would not be built. It failed for lack of capital.

The years 1884 and 1885 were among the most prosperous in Lyon county's early history. Excellent crops were raised and there was a big immigration. Landseekers came to the county in large numbers and indications of prosperity were apparent on all sides. New farms were opened, neat frame houses replaced the sod shanties of pioneer days, and real estate values increased.<sup>4</sup>

Exclusive wheat farming was given up and much flax and hay were raised. Farmers turned their attention also to stock raising and dairying more than formerly. The farmers were at last firmly upon their feet, and the high road to wealth was open. The recovery from the grasshopper scourge was at last complete.

The population of Lyon county in 1885 was 7978, an increase of 1721 in five years. By precincts the population was as follows:

Amiret.....	406
Clifton.....	190
Coon Creek.....	102
Custer.....	308
Eidsvold <sup>5</sup> .....	622
Fairview.....	253
Grandview.....	430
Island Lake.....	240
Lake Marshall.....	205
Lucas.....	244
Lynd.....	376
Lyons.....	243
Marshall.....	986
Monroe.....	290
Nordland.....	417
Rock Lake.....	329
Shelburne.....	196
Sodus.....	246
Stanley.....	186
Tracy.....	1210
Vallers.....	167
Westerheim.....	432
Total.....	7978

<sup>3</sup>The case was entitled: Gilbert H. Jessup, David H. Evans, Henry Pattridge, Nathan Beach and John Lind vs. James Lawrence as county auditor, Herman E. Long and Louis H. Greiser.

<sup>4</sup>The amount of railroad land sold about this place

The year 1886 was not a particularly fruitful one. There was very little movement in real estate and times were dull. In the country some improvements were made, but in comparison with the two or three preceding years, the twelve-month was an uneventful one.

The next year a splendid record in agricultural development was made. The acreage of crops was increased, many acres of prairie land were broken, many new farms were opened, a great amount of building was done, and the number of livestock greatly increased and the breed improved.

In the history of the Northwest there have been a few winter storms of such unnatural severity that they stand out as events of historical importance. The most severe of these awful storms was undoubtedly the blizzard of January 7, 8 and 9, 1873, an account of which has been given. Ranking second was the terrible blizzard of January 12, 1888, when over two hundred people lost their lives in different sections of the Northwest. By a miraculous turn of fate, none of these was in Lyon county, although many were caught in the storm and some were severely frozen.

The conditions essential to such a disastrous storm as this proved to be had been filled by the weather during the week previous. On January 5 a storm of sleet had frozen on the surface of the deep snow to an icy smoothness. The day before the storm the intense cold weather that had prevailed moderated, the wind shifted to the southwest, and there was a heavy snowfall, which continued until the blizzard started the next day.

and Tracy this year exceeds by far the amount sold any previous year, and what is better, it is sold to men who will occupy and till it."—News-Messenger, July 17, 1885.

<sup>5</sup>Including Minneota village.

On Thursday morning, the twelfth, the weather was mild and by noon it was thawing. A damp snow was falling and there was scarcely any wind. At a little before four o'clock in the afternoon what little wind there was subsided and there was a dead calm. At five minutes past four o'clock came the storm, with absolutely no warning.<sup>6</sup> It has been described as coming "as quickly as one could look to the window." In a moment a howling, shrieking blizzard was raging with blinding fury, rendering it hazardous to undertake a journey of even a few blocks in town and making it equivalent to almost certain death to be caught away from shelter on the prairie.

The terrors of the storm were augmented by a rapidly falling mercury, which soon reached the region of the thirties and rendered infinitely small the chance that any unfortunate being could survive who might be exposed to its perils. The storm rapidly increased in fury and continued unabated until eight o'clock Friday morning; then it lost much of its violence but continued until

Saturday night. Not until Tuesday did the conditions of the weather and roads permit many snow-bound people to reach their homes.

The storm came at a time when many were exposed to it. The mildness of the temperature that characterized the early part of the day resulted in farmers, who had long been weather-bound, going to the towns to trade, and a number of them were returning home; it came at an hour when schools all over the county were being dismissed, and children were obliged to make their way home in the storm; it came also at the time of day when many farmers were in the habit of driving their stock to water, and they and their herds became lost in its blinding fury. A great many head of stock were frozen to death.

A number of Lyon county people had narrow escapes from death. A few were obliged to spend the night in snowdrifts and haystacks, and there were several severe cases of freezing. In the vicinity of Garvin a whole train load of people was imperiled.<sup>7</sup>

Lyon county's third railroad, the

<sup>6</sup>The coming of the storm was heralded in advance by telegraph in some places, but most of the people of Lyon county had no warning. It struck Gary, South Dakota, at 3:55, Canby at 4:00, and Marshall at 4:05. It has been estimated that the storm traveled at the rate of over one hundred miles an hour.

<sup>7</sup>The most thrilling experiences of the storm came to the fifty or more passengers on the east-bound Northwestern train, which for nearly six days was stalled in a cut one mile west of the siding then known as Kent, now the village of Garvin. The train was making its regular run from Huron to Tracy, due at the latter place about seven o'clock on Wednesday evening, the eleventh. There was a southwest wind and a light fall of snow during the day, with increasing wind toward evening. A snow-plow was running ahead, and the train following as the plow reached the station ahead. At Lake Benton the wind had so increased that a freight train was abandoned, its engine added to the passenger train, with its caboose in the rear, and the train ran on double-headed. At Balaton the passenger started east, on arrival of the plow at Tracy. When between four and five miles from Balaton, near Kent, the train became stalled in a long cut. This was at ten o'clock in the evening.

The engines, being unable to pull the train out, loosened from it and from each other and for two hours the trainmen made desperate efforts to break out of the cut. This was finally accomplished, but at about the same time a south blizzard of great force struck, whirled and piled the snow up in every direction, and filled the track between the engines and the cars faster than the trainmen could remove it. Finding all efforts to connect with the cars hopeless, and water and fuel fast being reduced, with the storm increasing,

both engines at midnight pulled out and made the run to Tracy, arriving safely.

Then commenced in earnest the long siege of the passengers. Fortunately, there was a good supply of coal in the cars, enough for nearly two days' use. The besieged train comprised the mail and express cars, smoking and passenger coaches and caboose. There were between fifty and sixty passengers, enough to make crowded coaches when sleeping accommodations were provided. But little sleep was had that night. The storm increased in fury and no passenger ventured outside, even while the trainmen were making efforts to release the train. Thursday morning broke upon a doleful appearing set of snow-bound passengers. With two or three cranky exceptions, the passengers were cheerful. The storm showed no abatement until ten o'clock, when it gradually lessened in force until noon.

The telegraph from Tracy made known at Balaton the fact that the train was stalled. The section men at the last named place loaded hand sleds with provisions, hauled them out to the train, and a cold meal was eaten. During the afternoon a telegram was received at Balaton announcing the approaching blizzard. Realizing the dangers to which the people on the train would be subjected in one of the dreaded winter storms, the people of Balaton sent out seven teams hauling sleds to bring in the passengers.

Twenty-three persons were hastily loaded into the sleds and at three o'clock the start for Balaton was made. The rest of the passengers remained on the train. When the party in the sleds had proceeded about half way to Balaton and were still about two and one-half miles from the village, the memorable blizzard struck. At the time they were about twenty rods from the railroad track. The ladies were turned

Great Northern, was built in 1888. Its construction gave the county excellent railroad facilities, all except three of its twenty townships being then traversed.

The preliminary steps toward the building of the road were taken in the spring of 1886. The Willmar & Sioux Falls Railroad Company was organized March 3, 1886, by residents of South-

with their backs to the storm and covered with wraps and robes. In a moment the road was obscured from view. The men dismounted and bending to the ground sought for the road, knowing that to get out of it was most dangerous. It was found and a council of drivers and male passengers was held.

It was decided to keep the teams close together and make a break from the road to the railroad and keep close to it for the remaining two miles to town. Although only twenty rods away, it required a full twenty minutes to reach the railroad, which was struck at a point recognized as Ham's crossing. Some of the drivers gave the lines to the passengers and walked, encouraging their restless and confused horses, leading them and breaking drifts in front. In this manner slow and tedious progress was made toward the village by the little caravan.

The roaring blizzard, the dense atmosphere, the cutting, freezing, damp snow, the fast falling temperature, the anxiety of the drivers and the uneasiness of the horses all combined to create anxiety in the minds of the party. To add to the evils, one of the loads was overturned, two or three of the party lost their heads, and one man became partially deranged, crying and howling, and in his wildness pulling the robes and wraps from ladies in front of him, saying that he had but a few minutes to live and that he must get warm before he died. The people from the overturned sled attempted to walk, but with one exception soon found places in other vehicles. The exception, in fur coat and silk hat, stumbled through the snow, and, becoming exhausted, sank upon the roadside to die. He was seen by occupants of the last sled, who stopped and pulled him into their sleigh. His ears and face were frozen terribly.

At half past six, after a ride of three and one-half hours—two and a half hours in the blizzard—the last load reached the village and put up at its one hotel. Citizens were at their doors discharging guns and the school bell was incessantly clanging its alarm to guide the storm-bound procession into the village, but these sounds could not be heard beyond the village in the direction of the travelers. Everything possible was done for the relief of the passengers, nearly all of whom had frozen faces and chilled limbs.

Some of the trainmen started to walk to Tracy from the stalled train Thursday afternoon and were caught in the storm. They sought shelter in a grove and later found their way to a farm house. The next day they succeeded in reaching Tracy.

Those who remained on the train also had their troubles. A few of the passengers did a lot of grumbling, made no effort to take care of themselves, and made life miserable for everybody. Three nights were spent on the stalled train. Saturday the railroad officials at Tracy secured teams and sent a relief party, which brought off the imprisoned passengers. It took all day to drive from Tracy to the train and most of the next day to make the return trip. The baggage-man, L. S. Tyler, remained on the train until it was released on Tuesday. That day Dr. H. M. Workman headed a party which brought to Tracy in sleds those of the passengers who had made the trip to Balaton.

Other adventures were reported in different parts of the county, among others the following:

Arthur Heath left Marshall a few minutes before the storm struck with a load of manure to haul a short distance beyond the village. He heard the approach of the storm and, turning, saw it coming. He jumped off the load, unhitched the team, and turned them toward the barn, but the horses would not face the storm. He then went with them with the storm and fortunately brought up at the building at the fair grounds. He got his team inside, and his dog, which

western Minnesota, acting as agents for the Manitoba road, of which James J. Hill was the presiding genius.<sup>8</sup> The officers and directors chosen at the time of organization were J. M. Spicer, of Willmar, president; D. E. Sweet, of Pipestone, vice president; C. C. Goodnow, of Pipestone, secretary; C. B. Tyler, of Marshall, treasurer; J. G.

had followed, also came within. Hatch had little clothing on, and, getting cold, he commenced to tramp around the building. His feet became cold and he took the blankets from his horses, wrapped his dog in them, and lay down with his feet next to the dog. Alternately walking and warming his feet in that way, he passed the long night. In the morning it was still cold and blizzarding and he did not dare to try to get home in his condition. The man was missed Thursday evening, but it was out of the question to attempt to find him in such a storm. The next morning a rescuing party found him. His hands and feet were badly frozen, but with care he came out all right.

Josiah Clark's two sons were a mile and a half from home with four horses and were given up as lost by their father, but they pulled through, found the house, and the horses followed them in.

Hans Peterson, of Coon Creek township, and his fourteen-year-old son, Jay P. Peterson, now a resident of Russell, came near losing their lives. They had just finished watering their herd of horses in the Redwood river when the howling blizzard struck them. The horses were blinded by the whirling avalanche of snow and all except one blind mare fled with the storm to the southeast. The Peterson home was to the east and the man and boy finally succeeded in reaching the barn, bringing with them the blind mare. In order that they might not become lost in going from the barn to the house, one stayed at the barn and hallooed until the other made his way to the house; then the one at the house by his voice directed the other.

They had hardly entered the building when a rushing, pounding noise was heard outside, as if a hurricane threatened the destruction of the premises. Upon rushing out they discovered, to their amazement, the whole herd of horses within the open space about the house, they having plunged headlong into it from the summits of the encircling drifts. The animals were totally blind, the entire front of their heads being blocked with solid ice. They were rounded up and with great difficulty got into the barn. It is the opinion of Mr. Peterson that the horses heard the shouts of the men at the house and blindly made their way against the storm to where instinct told them lay safety.

M. S. Fawcett and his son, who lived near Balaton, lost a herd of cattle and only through good fortune succeeded in getting to safety themselves. The blizzard came upon them while they were driving the stock to water, only a short distance from the house. In an unsuccessful attempt to get the cattle back to the barn, they became lost. They finally came upon a hedge fence that led them to the barn.

James Harris and his son in Grandview had a close call while watering their stock. The stock turned and went with the storm. The boy was on a horse, without saddle, bridle or halter, and it was with the greatest difficulty that the father overtook and got the boy off the horse and then found his way home.

In Lynd township Messrs. Gilman and Gooder were out with their stock. Gooder became lost and sought shelter in a straw stack. By the merest accident Mr. Gilman ran across him and rescued him in a freezing condition. Each lost their stock.

Hans Solberg was with his team after hay. When the storm struck he unhitched the team, fastened the horses to the wagon, and after a great struggle reached home. His ears and hands were frozen.

<sup>8</sup>The formal transfer of the Willmar & Sioux Falls to the Manitoba Company was made in September, 1887, before the line was constructed, and after January, 1890, the road was designated Great Northern.

Schutz, of Marshall; H. T. Carson, of Sioux Falls.<sup>9</sup>

The information was given out that Mr. Hill was the promoter of the new road and that a proposition for the issuance of bonds as a bonus would soon be submitted. A preliminary survey of the road, which was to run from Willmar to Sioux Falls, was begun in April, 1886, and the next month surveyors, working from the south, began working on the line in Lyon county. Then activities for the year ceased.

Early in the spring of 1887 surveyors again operated in the county, and it became evident that the road would be built. The promoters asked for township bonds of all townships except Westerheim, Eidsvold, Nordland, Rock Lake, Custer, Monroe and Amiret, to the value of \$35,200, in consideration of which they would have the line completed by January 1, 1888. The election notices were posted by committees from Marshall, which was the seat of the greatest interest in the campaign, and the first election was held in Stanley and bonds carried. Before the other elections were held the railroad authorities stopped proceedings for the purpose of presenting a new proposition.

This was to the effect that as it would be impossible to have the road in operation when promised, an extension of time was asked to October 1, 1888, in consideration of which a slight reduction in the amount of bonds asked would be made. Considerable feeling was aroused because of the delay, but

<sup>9</sup>The Willmar & Sioux Falls Railroad Company was incorporated with a capital stock of \$2,000,000 by J. M. Spicer and G. H. Perkins, of Willmar; Gorham Powers, of Granite Falls; C. B. Tyler and J. G. Schutz, of Marshall; C. C. Goodnow and D. E. Sweet, of Pipestone; E. A. Sherman and H. T. Carson, of Sioux Falls.

<sup>10</sup>Bonds carried.

<sup>11</sup>As a matter of fact only a part of the bonds voted ever passed into the hands of the railroad company. The Marshall News-Messenger of October 23, 1903, said:

"The village of Marshall bonds are the only bonds

new election notices were posted and the elections were held. Under the new terms the several precincts were asked to vote \$31,600, but it was thought probable that at least one township would vote against the bonds, and the railroad officers let it be known that they would be satisfied with \$30,000.

The elections were held in May and June. The amount of bonds asked of each precinct and the result of the vote were as follows:

PRECINCTS	Bonds Asked	For Bonds	Against Bonds
Lucas .....	\$1700	20	16
Vallers .....	900	16	25
Grandview....	2000	44	48
Fairview.....	2400	28	3
Clifton.....	1400	27	1
Lake Marshall	3400	33	0
Marshall.....	10000	203	0
Lynd <sup>10</sup> .....	3400	..	..
Island Lake....	900	36	11
Coon Creek....	1000	22	0
Lyons.....	1500	36	12
Sodus.....	1600	30	25
Shelburne.....	1400	13	19
Total.....	\$31,600		

The failure to vote bonds in Grandview, Vallers and Shelburne resulted in raising only \$27,300, or \$2700 short of the sum demanded. To make up the deficiency the village of Marshall, on April 17, 1888, voted \$3000 additional bonds, nominally to furnish depot grounds and right of way in Marshall. The bonds were carried by a vote of 128 to 10.<sup>11</sup>

The roadbed of the Willmar & Sioux

ever issued and turned over to the railroad company. The towns of Lynd and Lyons issued their bonds but forbade their delivery to the railroad company until a like amount of stock value of the road was delivered to said towns in exchange for the bonds, meanwhile placing the bonds in trust with C. B. Tyler, who has retained their custody during the past fifteen years. None of the other towns issued the bonds they had so freely voted, and presumably for the same reason that the Lynd and Lyons bonds were held in escrow. It is a singular fact that neither the old Willmar & Sioux Falls Company, the Great Northern Company, nor any party having a claim to the bonds have ever demanded the same during the fifteen years that they have been held in escrow."

Falls railroad was graded during the summer and fall of 1887, not being completed until early in December. The track was laid in August, 1888, Marshall being reached on the twenty-first of that month. Trains were operated north from Marshall on September 11, and between that village and Pipestone early in October. The work of construction was somewhat delayed in the vicinity of Camden because of the large number of bridges necessary to build there.

The construction of the railroad had a wholesome effect on Lyon county. The villages of Cottonwood, Green Valley, Lynd, Russell and Florence were founded as a result. The northeastern and southwestern portions of the county, which before had not been thickly settled, were rapidly filled with settlers. Adding to the prevailing active times, one of the best crops of years was harvested in 1888.

Another railroad that was projected in 1888 was the Minnesota & Northern, which proposed to build a line from the south through Tracy and thence to the north. In July Tracy and Monroe township voted bonds to aid in its construction, but the company failed to build because of lack of capital.

On July 22, 1890, a cyclone visited Lyon county and left a trail of death, ruined crops and wrecked homes in a narrow strip of country in Eidsvold, Westerheim and Grandview townships. The cyclone formed at about twenty minutes before six o'clock at a point about seven miles north of Minneota. The cloud formation is said to have been one of the most singular spectacles ever witnessed. The clouds concentrated in such a manner as to form the distinct outlines of a human head, of mammoth proportions, with the wind apparently issuing from the open mouth.

The twisting formation started upon its travels in an easterly direction and continued in that direction about one-half mile. Its width varied from two to ten rods. It suddenly took a turn to the south and ran a furious race to within three-quarters of a mile of Minneota; then, after seeming to rest for a second, it took a southeasterly course with more fury than ever.

Throughout its course in Eidsvold township the cyclone scattered grass, grain and dirt in the air, but struck no buildings. On the northwest quarter of section 20, Westerheim, the large barn of B. L. Leland was struck. The roof and two sides were torn out, but the house, in which was the family, eight rods distant, was not damaged.

The next place attacked was the home of Felix DeReu, on the southwest quarter of section 28, Westerheim, and here the storm commenced its deadly work. In the house were Mrs. DeReu and four children—Cyriel, Bertha, Julius and a baby. The house was struck with such terrific force that it was smashed into fragments, and beneath the ruins were buried the DeReu family. The mother had gathered the children and with the baby in her arms had started for the cellar when the storm broke.

Cyriel, the eldest child, was so badly injured that he died the following morning; Mrs. DeReu's limb was broken just above the ankle; Julius sustained a broken leg; and Bertha was so badly injured that for a time her life was despaired of. The other child, although carried a distance of over two hundred yards, was uninjured. Mr. DeReu was buried in the ruins of the granary and badly bruised but not seriously hurt. All the buildings on the place were leveled to the ground in almost an instant and scattered over the prairie; not a single thing that goes to make up

a farmer's home was left whole. Even the farm machinery that stood on the premises was broken up and scattered broadcast over the fields in six-inch pieces.

The cyclone continued its southeasterly course and struck with awful violence at the home of Andrew Opdahl, on the southwest quarter of section 34, Westerheim. The house, barn and granary were whirled through the air and scattered over the prairie, not a board or timber being left in its original size. Mrs. Opdahl and her child were taken up by the storm and dashed back to earth. Both were badly bruised and cut but not seriously injured. Mr. Opdahl was returning from Ghent and saw the wrecking of his home. Two horses were lifted bodily, carried several rods, and deposited in a neighbor's field.

A little farther on its course the cyclone passed within a few rods of Thomas Carron's house, and then seemed to lift. A parting puff removed the chimney from a blacksmith shop in Ghent and then the twister vanished.

The census of 1890 showed a population of 9501 in Lyon county, an increase of 1523 in five years.<sup>12</sup> Great progress was made in material advancement during 1890 and the following year. The News-Messenger of November 20, 1891, described conditions: "A season of healthfulness, a crop of remarkable bounteousness, a year of unparalleled growth for Marshall and Lyon county, enormous trade at all stores, unprecedented payments of mortgages and old debts, and most promising prospects for the future."

Lyon county's court house was built in 1891, after many years' effort. Upon

the removal of the county seat to Marshall early in 1874, in accordance with their promise, the townsite owners, Messrs. Stewart, Jenkins, Ward and Blake, donated the block of ground upon which the building now stands. At the same time the free use of the office of J. W. Blake was given for the transaction of county business and for a time that was the Lyon county court house. Apparently it was not in use long, for on October 15, 1875, we find this complaint in the Marshall Messenger: "Just now, it seems, we are out of court house room, and our offices can be found lying around in cheap corners most anywhere."

The first official action toward the construction of a court house was taken by the Board of County Commissioners in July, 1874, when the following resolution was passed:

"Resolved that there be a special tax of one mill on the dollar, payable in money only, levied on the taxable property of Lyon county for the year 1874, and for eight succeeding years, for the purpose of building a court house in said county."

It was also provided that the money so raised should be loaned on Lyon county real estate, all loans to be made payable March 1, 1883. The times were such, however, that sentiment was against the levying of this tax, and on October, 1875, the action was rescinded and \$68.83 in the court house fund was transferred to another fund.

The first county building, erected on the court house square, was put up in June, 1876. Its dimensions were 18x24 feet and it was twelve feet high. Joshua Goodwin was the contractor. This little building was occupied until the new

<sup>12</sup>By precincts the population in 1890 was as follows: Amiret, 294; Clifton, 245; Coon Creek, 258; Custer, 321; Eidsvold, 413; Fairview, 266; Grandview, 443; Island Lake, 300; Lake Marshall, 233; Lucas, 466;

Lynd, 380; Lyons, 344; Marshall, 1203; Minneota, 325; Monroe, 252; Nordland, 357; Rock Lake, 395; Shelburne, 275; Sodus, 280; Stanley, 198; Tracy, 1400; Vallery, 397; Westerheim, 456.

court house was erected. It was sold December 7, 1892, for \$281.

Early in 1881 an effort was made to build a court house and jail. A bill passed the Legislature and was approved March 7, which authorized the issuance of bonds, not to exceed \$15,000, for the purposes, but it was not to become operative until it had been ratified by a vote of the electors. Sentiment was still against the expenditure and the question was not submitted to the voters.

In December of the same year the commissioners purchased of George Nichols for \$1500 a building on Main Street, which for the next nine years was used for court purposes.<sup>13</sup> It was sold in July, 1891, for \$2500.

Not until 1889 did the court house question again become a live issue. Then Representative A. C. Forbes introduced a bill which provided for the repeal of the 1881 measure (authorizing a bond issue of \$15,000) and for authority to issue bonds to the amount of \$50,000. There were several restrictive provisions: the bonds were not to be issued unless the act was ratified by majority vote at a special election, and the election was not to be called unless a petition (naming the amount of bonds to be voted for), signed by at least five resident freeholders who were legal voters in each voting precinct in the county was filed. If the bond issue were defeated at one election, another might be called to vote on the same question.

The bill was passed and approved by Governor Merriam, but not without opposition. An indignation meeting was held in Tracy and a committee of three

was sent to St. Paul to protest against the signing of the bill. Remonstrances were liberally signed in parts of the county and forwarded to St. Paul. It soon became known that the people of the county generally were opposed to the expenditure of so great a sum, and as in former cases the matter was not voted on.

The final struggle for the court house came in 1891. Prosperous times were then enjoyed and there was a surplus of \$18,000 in the county treasury. The matter was taken up early in the year by the farmers alliance organizations, which at the time were powerful in the county. They passed resolutions in favor of the erection of a building to cost in the neighborhood of \$25,000, but were opposed to the expenditure of \$50,000, as the former bill provided.

A bill was introduced in the Legislature by Representative C. H. White providing for the erection of a court house at a cost of not more than \$25,000. The County Board was authorized to use the funds on hand and to issue bonds for the balance. Again the question was to be submitted to the people and the county auditor was directed to call a special election.

Again the people of Tracy and those parts of the county opposed to the measure raised a protest and threatened to bring on a county seat contest. An offer was made to build and donate to the county a court house at Tracy, providing the county seat should be moved to that village. The bill passed the Lower House under suspension of the rules, and a delegation from Tracy made an effort to have it reconsidered, but was unsuccessful. A fight was then

<sup>13</sup>Those who advocate the building of a court house think this purchase an unwise one, but those in favor of delaying the court house building until we know what we want think the purchase of the Nichols Building an economical and safe investment. . . . The lower part of the building makes a good court

room, and above there are two good jury rooms. This building will furnish ample accommodation for court business for some years to come and can be let for other purposes between terms if desired." - Marshall Messenger, December 15, 1881.

made before committees of the Senate and for two weeks the bill was one of the principal topics of discussion at the capitol. The court house adherents were successful; the bill passed the Senate in March and was approved by the governor.

The election to decide the question was held on Saturday, May 9, 1891, and was the fiercest fought battle of ballots ever witnessed in Lyon county. It was in a measure a sectional fight, with Marshall and adjoining territory on one side and Tracy and adjoining territory on the other. The result was 939 votes in favor of building the court house and 862 against. The several precincts voted as follows:

PRECINCTS	For Building	Against Building
Marshall.....	350	0
Tracy.....	0	305
Minneota.....	33	32
Amiret.....	4	56
Clifton.....	50	0
Coon Creek.....	21	12
Custer.....	0	69
Eidsvold.....	3	45
Fairview.....	54	1
Grandview.....	49	14
Island Lake.....	10	30
Lake Marshall.....	60	0
Lucas.....	50	23
Lynd.....	55	8
Lyons.....	28	14
Monroe.....	0	66
Nordland.....	5	49
Rock Lake.....	20	62
Shelburne.....	17	9
Sodus.....	20	31
Stanley.....	41	0
Vallers.....	47	5
Westerheim.....	22	31
Total.....	939	862

There was a big celebration by the people of Marshall on election night, and Monday there was a bigger celebration in honor of the victory, in which people from many parts of the county participated. The committee under whose direction the campaign for the court

house was waged was composed of A. C. Chittenden, V. B. Seward, M. Sullivan, C. F. Johnson, A. R. Chace, Olof Pehrson, R. M. Addison and F. E. Persons.

There was no delay in the construction of the building. On May 19 Frank Thayer, of Mankato, was employed as architect and superintendent of construction. The contract was let June 11, 1891, to D. D. Smith, of Minneapolis, on a bid of \$22,290, increased later by \$700 by reason of changes in plans. Other contracts were let for vaults, etc., in the sum of \$1058. Work of excavation for the court house was begun early in July, the corner stone was laid under the auspices of the Masonic order September 3, and the structure was completed and was to have been dedicated January 15, 1892.

Early in the morning of January 8 the new building was discovered to be on fire and within a few hours only the walls of the building were standing. The sum of \$14,622 was secured in insurance. A contract for rebuilding the court house was let in March, 1892, to J. D. Carroll, of St. Paul, on a bid of \$13,893, and the building was accepted by the Board of County Commissioners on November 14.

There were prospects for an enormous crop in 1892 and a continuation of prosperous times, but the march of progress was interrupted by a series of storms which brought destruction to a big part of the crop.

Early in the morning of August 5, 1892, a tornado did some damage in Marshall, demolishing a residence, bringing a \$1500 damage to the court house in course of construction, and twisting barns and overturning several small buildings. The loss was about \$2500.

The next disaster of the season came August 8, when a wind and hail storm,

within the space of ten minutes, brought damage in Lyon county to the amount of nearly a half million dollars. The amount of hail and the size of the stones were without precedent. In Marshall the storm took the same course as the one of three days before. Several buildings were wrecked, including the Icelandic church, one or two residences, and several barns. The damage in the village was only \$3000 or \$4000.

The storm was from five to eight miles wide and extended across the central part of the county from west to east. The townships of Island Lake, Lynd and Lake Marshall were completely covered, although in rare instances here and there a quarter section escaped with little damage through a freak in the elements' course. The loss in those townships was nearly total. About three-fourths of Nordland township was covered, as were also the two southern tiers of sections in Grandview and Fairview, the eastern and central parts of Clifton, and the north tiers of sections of Sodus and Lyons. It was estimated that one-sixth of the county's grain crop was lost. The acreage of grain destroyed was placed at 39,280 and the money loss \$471,360.

On August 13 a heavy wind storm, general over the county, brought another loss. The grain still standing was pounded down, so that much of it was absolutely worthless.

The memorable panic of 1893 and a few years of stringent times followed; the decade of development was rudely interrupted. There was a period of partial crop failures and low prices and the county passed through a time of depression. Several firms failed and business was paralyzed. The preceding years of plenty had induced many to enlarge their holdings. Farmers had purchased more lands, increased their

stock, erected new buildings, largely on credit, and on them fell a heavy hand.

On July 5, 1893, came a most destructive hail storm, which, however, brought loss to only a small part of the county, in the extreme southwestern corner. The damage in Lincoln and Murray counties was great, and in the southern half of Shelburne township all exposed plant life was destroyed. The fields were left blackened and only the roots of the crops were left.

Another hail storm visited parts of the county on August 19, 1893, and brought some loss. The principal damage was done in the southern and western portions. Most of the small grain was in shock or stack and escaped injury, but late flax and corn were badly damaged.

When winter approached the effects of the times were apparent. The Marshall News-Messenger of December 8, 1893, told of conditions:

The first whisperings of destitution in our midst are being heard, and the low murmurings will soon increase to emphatic demands upon the charitably inclined. The conditions point to a winter of suffering among the poor. . . .

There are today in our midst a half dozen families, large in numbers, who are in want of food, fuel and clothing, and in the tributary territory there are scores of such families; their numbers here and around us will increase as cold weather continues. Many may easily be found and others will not make their wants known until after much suffering and the danger line is reached. In the country are men, at the head of large families, strong in physique and proud in spirit, who have never known poverty or needed aid, who today are penniless, without supplies for their families, feed for their stock, or even seed for the next crop. In most cases the fault is not theirs, but their condition follows storm-swept fields, an unremunerative market, and collections pressed by the necessity of creditors, demanding the last bushel of grain and last head of stock. In other cases unwise methods have proven quite disastrous that under ordinary circumstances might have proved fairly profitable. Others are destitute owing to their own improvidence and shiftlessness, and in some cases to dissipation.

Adding to the severity of the times, in 1894 came the first Lyon county crop failure since grasshopper days. The

calamity was caused by drought. Hard times in the midst of plenty summarized the record for 1895. No previous year was more richly blessed by the generosity of Nature, and yet the cry of hard times was more frequently heard than in either of the two preceding years. The harvest was of unusual bounty and under normal conditions would have placed the people of Lyon county in comfortable circumstances, but the prices for grain were hardly sufficient to pay for threshing and hauling to market. The assessed valuation of the county in 1895 had increased to over four million dollars.<sup>14</sup> The population that year was 12,425, an increase of 2924 in five years.<sup>15</sup>

The lean years of the hard times period following the panic of 1893 continued until 1897. Then abundant crops, aided by better conditions in the country at large, brought a change in the status. During the years 1897 to 1902, inclusive, excellent crops were the rule and hundreds of new settlers came to share in the bounteous times. Land values jumped several hundred per cent. It was a time of unprecedented prosperity.

The Lyon county jail and sheriff's residence was built in 1899 and 1900. The contract was let June 19, 1899, to Pauly Jail Building and Manufacturing Company, on a bid of \$10,575. The building was completed and accepted by the County Board March 6, 1900. The total cost was \$11,797.88.

Another increase in population was

made known by the census of 1900. That year the population was 14,591, or 2166 more than it had been in 1895.<sup>16</sup>

Lyon county's last railroad, the branch of the Northwestern from Evan to Marshall, was built during 1901 and 1902. For the purpose of building this road, the Minnesota Western Railroad Company was formed in July, 1901. Grading for the new line was commenced in August, and late in the fall the grade was completed. Tracklaying was begun the next spring and was completed to the junction near Marshall on July 11, 1902. Train service was begun August 13.

The year 1903 brought an interruption to the series of big crop productions. This was caused by excessive rainfall and the most destructive hail storm in the county's history, excepting the one of 1892. The hail storm came on the morning of July 1. Its width was two to four miles and it extended southeasterly from the northwest corner of Island Lake township. The principal damage was in the townships of Island Lake, Lynd, Lake Marshall, Sodus, Clifton and Amiret. In the path of the storm the loss was almost complete. The storm proved to be only a temporary check to the forward movement.

A county fair association was organized in 1904. Grounds were purchased near Marshall for \$6000, buildings were erected, and since that date fairs have regularly been held.

The census of 1905 gave Lyon county a population of 16,171, an increase of

<sup>14</sup>The assessed valuation for the decade before had been as follows: 1886, \$2,074,248; 1887, \$2,210,371; 1888, \$2,453,092; 1889, \$2,532,340; 1890, \$2,723,722; 1891, \$2,844,436; 1892, \$3,687,465; 1893, \$3,899,005; 1894, \$4,001,781; 1895, \$4,028,091.

<sup>15</sup>By precincts the population in 1895 was as follows: Amiret, 360; Balaton, 222; Clifton, 311; Coon Creek, 415; Cottonwood, 303; Custer, 387; Eidsvold, 504; Fairview, 373; Grandview, 471; Island Lake, 360; Lake Marshall, 328; Lucas, 399; Lynd, 429; Lyons, 476; Marshall, 1744; Minneota, 512; Monroe, 386; Nordland, 440; Rock Lake, 335; Shelburne, 366;

Sodus, 350; Stanley, 271; Tracy, 1687; Vallers, 502; Westerheim, 494.

<sup>16</sup>The population by precincts in 1900 was as follows: Amiret, 407; Balaton, 209; Clifton, 365; Coon Creek, 672; Cottonwood, 549; Custer, 467; Eidsvold, 581; Fairview, 406; Ghent, 119; Grandview, 427; Island Lake, 384; Lake Marshall, 377; Lucas, 461; Lynd, 488; Lyons, 469; Marshall, 2088; Minneota, 777; Monroe, 387; Nordland, 458; Rock Lake, 404; Shelburne, 469; Sodus, 376; Stanley, 360; Tracy, 1911; Vallers, 479; Westerheim, 501.

1580 over the enumeration of 1900.<sup>17</sup>

The last few years of Lyon county's history have, indeed, been prosperous ones. It has developed into one of the richest agricultural counties in the state of Minnesota. Bountiful crops and good prices have been the rule.<sup>18</sup> Land values at the present writing (1912) are the highest they have ever been, several transfers having been made at \$100 per acre.

In 1910 the population of Lyon county was 15,722, divided among the several precincts as follows:

Amiret.....	444
Balaton.....	364
Clifton.....	395
Coon Creek.....	525

Cottonwood.....	770
Custer.....	617
Eidsvold.....	472
Fairview.....	410
Ghent.....	210
Grandview.....	468
Island Lake.....	374
Lake Marshall.....	415
Lucas.....	462
Lynd.....	568
Lyons.....	451
Marshall.....	2152
Minneota.....	819
Monroe.....	471
Nordland.....	460
Rock Lake.....	402
Russell.....	262
Shelburne.....	432
Sodus.....	358
Stanley.....	396
Taunton.....	205
Tracy.....	1876
Vallers.....	449
Westerheim.....	495
Total.....	15,722

<sup>17</sup>By precincts the population in 1905 was as follows: Amiret, 438; Balaton, 350; Clifton, 426; Coon Creek, 542; Cottonwood, 883; Custer, 414; Eidsvold, 448; Fairview, 467; Garvin, 107; Ghent, 193; Grandview, 459; Island Lake, 399; Lake Marshall, 413; Lucas, 475; Lynd, 562; Lyons, 445; Marshall, 2243; Minneota, 954; Monroe, 402; Nordland, 429; Rock Lake, 413; Russell, 275; Shelburne, 460; Sodus, 379; Stanley, 419; Taunton, 196; Tracy, 2015; Vallers, 481; Westerheim, 484.

<sup>18</sup>A severe wind, rain and hail storm brought loss to crops in a small portion of the county June 20, 1908. The damage was confined to small tracts north of Minneota and east of Marshall. In parts of the county some damage to small grain was brought by hot winds in the summer of 1911, but the loss was not great.

## CHAPTER VIII.

### POLITICAL 1869-1912.

BEFORE taking up the political history of Lyon county, let us resume briefly the story of events that led to its organization. Lyon county, it will be remembered, had in turn formed parts of the counties of Waubashaw, Blue Earth, Brown and Redwood, and not until the Legislature passed an enabling act in 1869 was Lyon county entitled to a place on the map of Minnesota as a political division of itself, and then it embraced also the territory now known as Lincoln county. When Lyon county was created it was very sparsely settled, and in the thirty-five townships comprising its area was a mere handful of residents; a year later, when the first election was held, the population was less than 300 and the voters numbered only seventy-eight.

Difficulties were encountered in effecting the organization of the county after it had been created. In December, 1869, Governor William R. Marshall named A. W. Muzzy, E. R. Horton and Daniel Williams commissioners, Edmund Lamb auditor, and Charles Hildreth sheriff, and vested them with authority to set in motion the machinery of

county government. Circumstances prevented an immediate carrying into effect of these plans. Mr. Horton was absent from the county at the time of his appointment and did not return. Mr. Williams departed soon after the appointment and remained for a protracted visit. These absences reduced the Board of County Commissioners to one member and, of course, it was out of the question for the remaining member to act as the County Board.

The residents of the new county were anxious for organization, particularly that they might participate in the election of 1870, and in the summer of that year Horace Austin, who had become governor of Minnesota, appointed Levi S. Kiel to serve as one of the commissioners.

The organization was perfected on the twelfth day of August, 1870, when two members of the board, A. W. Muzzy and Levi S. Kiel, met at the home of Luman Ticknor in Upper Lynd. At that time Messrs. Muzzy and Kiel took the oaths of office, as did also Edmund Lamb as county auditor. Mr. Muzzy was chosen chairman of the board.<sup>1</sup> These were

<sup>1</sup>Chairmen of the Board of County Commissioners have been as follows: A. W. Muzzy, 1870; Timothy S. Eastman, 1871-72; M. L. Wood, 1873; James Mitchell, Jr., 1874-75-77-79-80-82; Gordon Watson, 1876; H. T. Oakland, 1878; M. C. Humphrey, 1881; E. L. Starr, 1883; V. M. Smith, 1884; John Noble, 1885-86; Hugh Neill, 1887-88-89-90; O. H. Hatlestad,

1891-92-04-10; J. J. Hartigan, 1893; Ole J. Wignes, 1894-00; Ole F. Norwood, 1895; Robert Heilman, 1896; T. P. Baldwin, 1897; John A. Hunter, 1898-01; D. S. Phillips, 1899; C. W. Candee, 1902-03; Levi S. Kiel, 1905; C. K. Melby, 1906; John N. Jones, 1907; J. M. Wardell, 1908-12; T. K. Thompson, 1909; C. E. Etrheim, 1911; James McGinn, 1912

the only officers Lyon county had until the officers elected on November 8, 1870, qualified on January 3, 1871.

At a meeting of the County Board on October 8, 1870, the county was divided into five election precincts, polling places were designated, and judges of election were appointed for the approaching election, as follows:

Saratoga (embracing the present townships of Monroe, Custer, Sodus and Amiret)—Polling place, house of George Robinson; judges, Joseph Wagner, James Mitchell, Clarence Avery.

Marshall (embracing present townships of Stanley, Fairview, Lake Marshall and Clifton)—Polling place, house of C. H. Upton; judges, C. H. Upton, Joseph Carter, L. Langdon.

Upper Yellow Medicine (embracing present townships of Lucas, Vallery, Westerheim, Eidsvold and Alta Vista)—Polling place and judges not named.

Lynd (embracing present townships of Grandview, Nordland, Island Lake, Lynd, Lyons, Coon Creek, Shelburne and Rock Lake)—Polling place, house of Luman Ticknor; judges, A. W. Muzzy, A. R. Cummins, Luman Ticknor.<sup>2</sup>

Lake Benton (embracing all of the present county of Lincoln except Alta Vista township)—Polling place, house of William Taylor; judges, William Taylor, Daniel Williams, John Birmingham.<sup>3</sup>

At the election polls were not opened in all the precincts, but there was voting in at least Marshall and Lynd precincts—in the former at the sod shanty of C. H. Whitney and in the latter at an old claim shanty.<sup>4</sup> Seventy-eight votes were polled in Lyon county at the first election, held on November 8, 1870, and the following officers were elected:

<sup>2</sup>The election judges of Lynd were on October 21, 1870, changed to E. Lamb, T. T. Pierce and M. V. Davidson.

<sup>3</sup>The first local officers for these precincts were named by the County Board and were as follows: Saratoga, Ziba Ferguson and George Robinson (succeeded by James Mitchell, Jr.), justices; Clarence Avery and William Taylor, constables; Marshall, C. H. Whitney, justice; William S. Reynolds, constable; Upper Yellow Medicine, Frank Nelson and Mr. Morse, justices; Lynd, Hiram Mareys, justice; Lake Benton, George Ross and Mr. Bentley, justices.

<sup>4</sup>A writer in the Marshall Messenger in after years told of the first election in Lyon county: "What a tussel we had when we held our election. We held it in an old claim shanty built by half-breeds years ago, but finding it too small to hold all of us we went out doors, the noisiest crowd that was ever out of prison. We voted as we wished, writing our own tickets."

<sup>5</sup>O. C. Gregg was appointed deputy auditor June 10 1872, and had charge of the office after that date.

<sup>6</sup>Resigned August 20, 1872, and Walter Wakeman appointed.

George E. Keyes,<sup>5</sup> auditor.

A. R. Cummins, treasurer.

James Cummins, sheriff.

W. H. Langdon, register of deeds.

A. W. Muzzy, judge of probate.

W. M. Pierce,<sup>6</sup> county attorney.

A. D. Morgan, clerk of court.

James Mitchell, Sr., court commissioner.

Joseph Wagner,<sup>7</sup> commissioner first district.<sup>8</sup>

Timothy S. Eastman, commissioner second district.

Daniel Williams,<sup>9</sup> commissioner third district.<sup>10</sup>

Office holding was not so much in style in pioneer days as in later years and there was not unseemly scramble for the honor of holding office. In fact, a number of those elected did not take kindly to the unsolicited honor and only after much persuasion consented to qualify. Party politics did not enter into the question of selecting local officers and no conventions were held. As there were no regularly selected nominees, there were no ballots, each voter casting a ballot of his own manufacture for his own candidates.

For several years the emoluments were not great. The salary of the county auditor was \$100 per year; the superintendent of schools drew the

<sup>7</sup>Resigned May 6, 1871, and on that date Horace Randall was appointed. The latter did not qualify and on May 16, 1871, George Robinson received the appointment.

<sup>8</sup>The Board of County Commissioners on October 14, 1870, had divided the county into commissioner districts as follows: No. 1, the two eastern tiers of townships; No. 2, the present townships of Westerheim, Grandview, Lynd, Lyons and Rock Lake; No. 3, all of the present Lincoln county and the western tier of townships of Lyon county as at present constituted. This apportionment was in force until after the creation of Lincoln county.

<sup>9</sup>Removed from the county and on September 4, 1871, was succeeded by Ira Scott.

<sup>10</sup>In the early days of the county's history the office of superintendent of schools was an appointive one. The first superintendent was C. F. Wright, who was appointed October 18, 1870. He was succeeded March 5, 1871, by G. W. Whitney, and that gentleman in August, 1871, by Ransom Wait, who served until March 17, 1874. After that date until the office became an elective one, G. M. Durst held the office by appointment.



#### AN OLD-TIMER

The Oldest Building in Lynd, Typical of Pioneer Days in Lyon County.



#### LYON COUNTY LANDMARK

Kiel's Hotel was Erected in Old Lynd When That Place was the County Seat. The Building was Used for Court House Purposes for a Time.



princely salary of \$20 annually; the county attorney received \$25 each year for his services for some time after county organization but his salary was raised to \$50 in 1873 and to \$100 in 1875. So late as 1875 the County Board estimated the expense for salaries for the coming year at only \$1200.

During the first dozen years of the political history of Lyon county elections were held every year, although the terms of office were two years, and only a few officials were selected in the odd-numbered years. In 1871 James Mitchell, Jr., was elected commissioner from the first district, M. L. Wood from the third, and Timothy S. Eastman continued to represent the second. Charles L. Van Fleet was elected surveyor and M. Taylor coroner.<sup>11</sup>

The election of 1872 brought an almost entire change in the personnel of county officers. The following were

elected: O. C. Gregg, auditor; Jacob Rouse, treasurer; James Cummins,<sup>12</sup> sheriff; Z. O. Titus, register of deeds; John Snyder,<sup>13</sup> judge of probate; Walter Wakeman, county attorney; Charles L. Van Fleet, surveyor; A. D. Morgan, commissioner second district. James Mitchell, Jr., and M. L. Wood continued on the board, representing the first and third districts.

While there was opportunity to vote for only a few officers in 1873, the campaigns for and against the removal of the county seat and the creation of Lincoln county made the election an exciting one and 502 ballots were cast in the county as then constituted. Following was the result:

Governor—C. K. Davis (rep), 389; Ara Barton (dem), 100; Samuel Mayall, 5.

Representative<sup>14</sup>—Z. B. Clark (rep),

<sup>11</sup>The judges of election in 1871 were as follows: Saratoga, Benjamin Thomas, James Mitchell and Richard Hughes; Marshall, Mr. Johnson, W. H. Langdon and C. H. Upton; Lynd, D. M. Taylor, G. E. Cummins and Sylvester Fry; Lake Benton, William Marsh, William Ross and William Taylor; Upper Yellow Medicine, Berent Thompson, Ole Sverson and Anton Maartesen.

<sup>12</sup>Resigned May 21, 1874, and was succeeded by S. Webster.

<sup>13</sup>John Snyder resided in that part of the county which is now Lincoln county, and when the new political division was organized in December, 1873, the office of judge of probate became vacant. Governor Horace Austin appointed W. M. Pierce to the vacancy in December, 1873.

<sup>14</sup>The constitution of the state of Minnesota, adopted in 1857, provided that the counties of Nicollet and Brown (in the latter was included the present Lyon county) should form the seventeenth legislative district, entitled to one senator and three representatives. This apportionment was in force until 1860. Under it the district was represented as follows:

1857-58—Senate, Thomas Cowan; House, Ephraim Pierce, Albert Tuttle, Frederick Rehfeld.

1859-60—Senate, Thomas Cowan; House, John Armstrong, Frederick Rehfeld, W. Pfander.

By the legislative apportionment of 1860, the counties of Faribault, Jackson, Cottonwood, Nobles, Pipestone, Rock and that part of Brown county west of range thirty-four (including Lyon county) were made to form the twentieth district, entitled to one senator and one representative. The district was so constituted until 1866 and was represented by the following legislators:

1861—Senate, Guy K. Cleveland; House, A. Strecker.  
1862—Senate, Guy K. Cleveland; House, B. O. Kempfer.

1863—Senate, D. G. Shillock; House, J. B. Wakefield.

1864—Senate, D. G. Shillock; House, J. A. Latimer.

1865—Senate, D. G. Shillock; House, J. A. Kiester.

1866—Senate, D. G. Shillock; House, J. B. Wakefield.

In 1866 the future Lyon county, as a part of Redwood county, formed a part of the nineteenth district, the counties comprising the district being Nicollet, Brown, Sibley, Redwood, Renville, Pierce and Davis. The district, which was so constituted until 1871, was represented as follows:

1867—Senate, Adam Buck; House, Charles T. Brown, D. G. Shillock.

1868—Senate, Charles T. Brown; House, John Rudolph, Adam Buck.

1869—Senate, Charles T. Brown; House, John Rudolph, J. C. Stoever.

1870—Senate, William Pfander; House, William L. Couplin, F. H. Swift.

1871—Senate, William Pfander; House, William L. Couplin, J. S. G. Honner.

The apportionment of 1871 put Redwood, Brown and Lyon counties in the thirty-seventh district, entitled to one senator and two representatives. That was the alignment for ten years. The district's representatives were as follows:

1872—Senate, William Pfander; House, O. S. Reishus, Henry Weyhe.

1873—Senate, J. S. G. Honner; House, J. W. Blake, C. C. Brandt.

1874—Senate, J. S. G. Honner; House, Z. B. Clark, Charles Hansing.

1875—Senate, J. W. Blake; House, H. S. Berg, Knud H. Helling.

1876—Senate, J. W. Blake; House, P. F. Jacobson, William Skinner.

1877—Senate, S. A. Hall; House, David Worst, E. P. Bertrand.

1878—Senate, S. A. Hall; House, J. W. Williams, C. C. Brandt.

1879—Senate, K. H. Helling; House, Gorham Powers, J. P. Bertrand.

1881—Senate, S. D. Peterson; House, J. C. Zeiske, G. W. Braley.

Since 1881 Lyon, Lincoln and Yellow Medicine counties have comprised one district and have been represented by one senator and two members of the house. Until 1897 the district was No. 16; since that date it has been No. 17. The representatives have been as follows:

243; Bishop Gordon (peo), 165; O. S. Reishus, 83.

Commissioner Third District<sup>15</sup>—N. T. Berry, 11; I. D. Briffit, 13; N. F. Berry, S.<sup>16</sup>

Considerable opposition to the local Republican ticket developed in 1874 and a "Peoples" ticket was placed in nomination. The convention which placed it in nomination declared it was non-partisan and it was made up of Democrats and dissatisfied Republicans. The contest following was a spirited one and the new party elected auditor, treasurer and court commissioner. The vote of Lyon county proper was 453 in 1874. The result in figures:

Congressman<sup>17</sup>—H. B. Strait (rep), 398; E. St. Julian Cox (dem), 49.

Senator—J. W. Blake (rep), 274; J. S. G. Honner (peo), 169; John Sigler, 2.

Representative—H. S. Berg (rep), 445; Falk, 3.

Auditor—S. S. Truax (rep), 205; O. C. Gregg (peo), 248.

Treasurer—Jacob Rouse (rep), 223; J. W. Williams (peo), 229.

Sheriff—S. Webster (rep), 252; H. J. Tripp, 197.

1883—Senate, J. W. Blake; House, C. M. Morse, John Swenson.

1885—Senate, J. W. Blake; House, C. M. Morse, Thomas McMillan.

1887—Senate, Ole O. Lende; House, J. Nobles, J. Hanson.

1889—Senate, Ole O. Lende; House, A. C. Forbes, A. J. Crane.

1891—Senate, Orrin Mott; House, C. H. White, O. C. Wilson.

1893—Senate, Orrin Mott; House, Ole O. Lende, Levi S. Tyler.

1895—Senate, E. S. Reishus; House, Frank W. Nash, George E. Olds.

1897—Senate, E. S. Reishus; House, George E. Olds, J. H. Manchester.

1899—Senate, Louis H. Schellbach; House, John G. Schutz, Charles W. Stites.

1901—Same as 1899.

1903—Senate, John G. Schutz; House, G. Erickson, H. W. Ruliffson.

1905—Senate, John G. Schutz; House, G. Erickson, Marcus Lauritsen.

1907—Senate, Virgil B. Seward; House, Harry M. Hanson, C. K. Melby.

1909—Senate, Virgil B. Seward; House, J. N. Johnson, C. K. Melby.

1911—Senate, O. A. Lende; House, Edwin F. Whiting, J. N. Johnson.

<sup>15</sup>When Lincoln county was withdrawn it became necessary to change the commissioner districts of

Register of Deeds—S. V. Groesbeck (rep), 193; George M. Durst (peo), 149; William Clemmens (ind), 96.

Judge of Probate—E. B. Jewett (rep), 264; James Mitchell, Sr. (peo), 180.

Attorney—Walter Wakeman (rep), 210; Lyman Turner (peo), 197.

Clerk of Court—Ole H. Dahl (rep), 325; Fred Holritz (peo), 92.

Court Commissioner—C. A. Edwards (rep), 149; J. N. Johnson<sup>18</sup> (peo), 175.

Coroner—D. M. Taylor<sup>19</sup> (rep), 199; T. W. Castor (peo), 127.

Surveyor—C. L. Van Fleet (rep-peo), 360.

Commissioner First District—James Mitchell, Jr. (rep), 97; John J. Jones, 18.

Commissioner Third District—H. T. Oakland (rep), 96; T. W. Castor (peo), 25.

A small vote was cast in 1875, with the following results:

Governor—John S. Pillsbury (rep), 188; D. L. Buell (dem), 50.

Representative—P. F. Jacobson (rep), 69; John N. Johnson (ind), 149.

Commissioner Second District—W. M. Pierce (rep), 73; G. Watson (peo), 81.

Six hundred six votes were cast at the presidential election of 1876, when

Lyon county and this was done early in 1874, the districts being as follows: No. 1, the townships of Monroe, Custer, Rock Lake, Shelburne, Amiret and Sodus; No. 2, the townships of Lyons, Coon Creek, Island Lake, Lynd, Lake Marshall and Clifton; No. 3, the townships of Stanley, Fairview, Grandview, Nordland, Eidsvold, Westerheim, Vallers and Lucas. This apportionment was in force until the county was given five districts in 1880.

<sup>16</sup>No one took office under this election and on March 17, 1874, T. W. Castor was appointed commissioner from the third district, replacing M. L. Wood.

<sup>17</sup>From 1872 to 1901 Lyon county formed a part of the second congressional district; since that time it has been in the seventh district, the other counties of the district being Big Stone, Chippewa, Grant, Kandiyohi, Lac qui Parle, Lincoln, Pope, Redwood, Renville, Stevens, Swift, Traverse and Yellow Medicine. Congressmen who have represented Lyon county since 1872 have been as follows: H. B. Strait, March 4, 1873, to March 4, 1883; J. B. Wakefield, March 4, 1883, to March 4, 1887; John Lind, March 4, 1887, to March 4, 1893; James T. McCleary, March 4, 1893, to 1901; Frank M. Eddy, 1901 to March 4, 1903; A. J. Volstead, March 4, 1903, to March 4, 1913.

<sup>18</sup>C. H. Whitney became court commissioner January 4, 1876.

<sup>19</sup>Mr. Taylor did not qualify and on July 31, 1876, W. M. Todd received the appointment.

the county was again found to be strongly Republican. The "Peoples" party was again in the field with a county ticket, but with one exception all Republicans were chosen for county officers. The vote in detail:

President—Rutherford B. Hayes (rep), 520; Samuel J. Tilden (dem), 73; Cooper, 13.

Congressman—H. B. Strait (rep), 521; E. T. Wilder (dem), 73; Ignatius Donnelly, 9.

Senator—S. A. Hall (rep), 512; S. A. George, 76.

Representative—W. G. Braley (rep), 308; David Worst, 236.

Auditor—O. C. Gregg (rep), 465; Fred Holritz (peo), 138.

Treasurer—J. H. Williams (rep), 134; J. W. Williams<sup>20</sup> (peo), 460.

Sheriff—John Hunter (rep), 487; John N. Johnson (peo), 109.

Register of Deeds—C. L. Van Fleet (rep), 407; Zenas Rank (peo), 154; B. A. Grubb (ind), 32.

Judge of Probate—D. F. Weymouth (rep), 485; E. B. Jewett (peo), 107.

Attorney—D. F. Weymouth (rep and peo), 588.

Court Commissioner—E. Lamb<sup>21</sup> (rep), 472; W. M. Pierce (peo), 100.

Coroner—J. A. Coleman (rep), 497; P. B. Fezler (peo), 96.

Surveyor—C. L. Van Fleet (rep), 446; George Link, 149.

Commissioner Third District—H. T. Oakland (rep), 200; H. W. Burlingame (peo), 21.

The election of 1877 resulted as follows:

<sup>20</sup>Mr. Williams was elected to the Legislature in 1877 while serving his term as county treasurer and when he qualified as a member of the Legislature he left the county office in charge of a deputy. The Board of County Commissioners declared the office vacant and on January 22, 1878, appointed R. M. Addison to the vacancy. Mr. Williams refused to surrender the office, the appointee was unable to secure possession, and the former treasurer drew salaries as a member of the Legislature and as county treasurer until the end of the term.

Governor—John S. Pillsbury (rep), 374; William L. Banning (dem), 25.

Judge District Court<sup>22</sup>—Alfred Wallin (rep), 294; E. St. Julian Cox (peo), 104.

Representative—J. G. Bryan (rep), 221; James W. Williams (peo), 169.

Superintendent of Schools—G. M. Durst (rep), 362.

Court Commissioner—C. H. Richardson (rep), 390.

Commissioner First District—James Mitchell, Jr. (rep), 67.

Six hundred ninety-eight was the highest number of votes polled for the nominees of any one office at the election of 1878. Again the opposition to the regular Republican ticket was represented, but the showing against the only organized party in the county was poor and all Republican nominees were elected by large majorities. The vote follows:

Congressman—H. B. Strait (rep), 506; Henry Poehler (dem), 186.

Senator—K. H. Helling (rep), 576; E. Birum (dem), 117.

Representative—Gorham Powers (rep), 605; H. S. Berg (dem), 91.

Auditor—O. C. Gregg (rep), 502; Ole Quam (peo), 195.

Treasurer—G. A. Jacobson (rep), 681.

Sheriff—J. A. Hunter (rep), 576; N. Warn (peo), 114.

Register of Deeds—W. M. Coleman (rep), 547; James Ward (peo), 143.

Judge of Probate—D. F. Weymouth (rep), 564; B. A. Grubb (peo), 134.

Attorney—A. C. Forbes (rep), 561; C. Andrews (peo), 116.

<sup>21</sup>Mr. Lamb did not qualify. W. M. Pierce was appointed court commissioner March 6, 1877, and qualified at that time.

<sup>22</sup>Judges of the ninth judicial district and their dates of service have been as follows: M. G. Hanscome, March 11, 1870, to January 1, 1877; E. St. Julian Cox, January 1, 1877, to March 22, 1882; H. D. Baldwin, April 4, 1882, to January 3, 1883; B. F. Webber, January 3, 1883, to November 15, 1906; I. M. Olsen, November 15, 1906, to January, 1913.

Clerk of Court—C. E. Patterson (rep), 150; J. W. Williams (peo), 239.

Coroner—J. W. Andrews (rep), 551; S. V. Groesbeck (peo), 142.

Surveyor—H. L. Coats (rep), 498; G. W. Link (peo), 114.

Commissioner Second District—G. Watson (rep), 148; G. W. Link (peo), 165.

There was no opposition to the Republican nominees in 1879 and the result was as follows:

Governor—John S. Pillsbury (rep), 421; Edmund Rice (dem), 100; W. W. Satterlee, 15.

Superintendent of Schools—G. M. Durst (rep), 462.

Court Commissioner—C. H. Richardson (rep), 426.

Commissioner Third District—H. T. Oakland (rep), 138.

For the first time in the county's history, in 1880 the Democrats as a party decided to enter the field of local politics and placed a ticket in the field. Without exception the Republicans were successful, although the Democratic nominee for representative carried the county. Lyon county had made rapid strides during the few years previous and the total vote now reached 1336. The vote in detail:

President—James A. Garfield (rep), 1141; W. S. Hancock (dem), 195.

Congressman—H. B. Strait (rep), 1103; Henry Poehler (dem), 227.

Senator—S. D. Peterson (rep-dem), 1139.

Representative—G. W. Braley (rep), 578; Ener Birum (dem), 748.

Auditor—O. C. Gregg (rep), 1145; M. B. Drew (dem), 190.

Treasurer—G. A. Jacobson (rep), 1058; J. W. Williams (dem), 264.

Sheriff—J. A. Hunter (rep), 1063; David Gamble (dem), 266.

Register of Deeds—A. N. Daniels (rep), 932; J. J. Hartigan (dem), 396.

Judge of Probate—D. F. Weymouth (rep-dem), 1324.

Attorney—A. C. Forbes (rep), 1020; Charles W. Main (dem), 296.

Coroner—S. V. Groesbeck (rep-dem), 1245.

Surveyor—V. M. Smith<sup>23</sup> (rep-dem), 1252.

Commissioner First District<sup>24</sup>—Jonathan Owen (rep), 255; G. W. Link (dem), 74.

Commissioner Second District—M. C. Humphrey, Jr. (rep), 220; James Lawrence (dem), 11.

Commissioner Third District—Fred Holritz (rep), elected; S. R. Kentner.

Commissioner Fourth District—James Mitchell, Jr. (rep), 154; Joshua J. Coyle (dem), 26.

Commissioner Fifth District—E. L. Starr (rep), 222; G. S. Robinson (dem), 85.

The election of 1881 resulted as follows:

Governor—L. F. Hubbard (rep), 481; R. W. Johnson (dem), 79; I. C. Stearns (pro), 41.

Superintendent of Schools—G. M. Durst (rep), 562.

Commissioner First District—V. M. Smith (rep), 100.

Eleven hundred eighteen votes were cast in 1882. A "Peoples" ticket was again in the field and there were several independent candidates. The contest was a sharp one and with one exception the Republican ticket was elected. The vote as canvassed:

Congressman—J. B. Wakefield (rep), 1088.

<sup>23</sup>Resigned in January, 1882, and J. W. Blake appointed in place of him.

<sup>24</sup>Lyon county had now become entitled to five commissioners and on September 30, 1880, the several

districts were formed as follows: No. 1, Lynd and Lake Marshall; No. 2, Lucas, Stanley, Clifton, Fairview and Grandview; No. 3, Nordland, Eidsvold, Westheim and Vallers; No. 4, Amiret, Sodus, Lyons, Coon

Judge District Court<sup>25</sup>—B. F. Webber (rep), 870; M. G. Hanscome (ind), 247.

Senator—J. W. Blake (rep), 973.

Representatives—John Swenson (rep), 1110; C. W. Morse (rep), 732; Ira S. Field (ind), 380.

Auditor—James Lawrence (rep), 1075; M. M. Curtis (peo), 34.

Treasurer—N. W. L. Jager (rep), 410; J. W. Williams (peo), 141; R. M. Addison (ind), 556.

Sheriff—J. F. Remore (rep), 1044; Levi Montgomery (peo), 61.

Register of Deeds—R. R. Bumford (rep), 987; Fred Holritz (peo), 127.

Judge of Probate—F. S. Brown (rep), 633; D. F. Weymouth (peo), 481.

Attorney—A. C. Forbes (rep), 695; C. W. Main (peo), 21; M. E. Mathews (ind), 387.

Clerk of Court—C. E. Patterson (rep), 1079; Timothy Stout (peo), 39.

Court Commissioner—Daniel Wilcox (rep), 1115.

Coroner—J. W. Andrews<sup>26</sup> (rep), 1075; John S. Renninger, 29.

Surveyor—D. Ward Kennedy (rep), 1112.

Commissioner Second District—John A. Noble (rep) defeated R. D. Barnes (peo).

Commissioner Third District—Ole L. Orsen (rep) defeated Thomas Hanson (peo).

The year 1883 was the last in which elections were held in odd-numbered years and the officers chosen at that time served until after the election of 1886. There was not much interest in the election and no opposition to the Republican ticket. A small vote was polled and the result was as follows:

Governor—L. F. Hubbard (rep), 567;

A. Bierman (dem), 149; Charles E. Holt (pro), 32.

Superintendent of Schools—Leslie A. Gregg (rep), 734.

Coroner—C. E. Persons (rep), 740.

Surveyor—J. W. Blake<sup>27</sup> (rep), 716.

Commissioner Fourth District—Hugh Neill (rep), 67.

Commissioner Fifth District—George Carlaw (rep), 283.

Only the Republican party was in the field of local politics in 1884 but there were several independent candidates and a lively contest resulted. The total vote was 1608 and was divided as follows:

President—James G. Blaine (rep), 1223; Grover Cleveland (dem), 242; John P. St. John (pro), 99.

Congressman—J. B. Wakefield (rep), 1265; J. J. Thornton (dem), 230; William Copp (pro), 96.

Representatives—C. M. Morse (rep), 755; Gustav Erickson (rep), 786; C. F. Case (ind), 810; Thomas McMillan (ind), 800.

Auditor—James Lawrence (rep), 1604.

Treasurer—George Little (rep), 963; R. M. Addison (ind), 632.

Sheriff—J. F. Remore (rep), 1507; P. B. Fezler (pro), 86.

Register of Deeds—R. R. Bumford (rep), 1592.

Attorney—A. C. Forbes (rep), 767; V. B. Seward (ind), 822.

Judge of Probate—F. S. Brown (rep), 1312; D. F. Weymouth (ind), 254.

Coroner—C. E. Persons (rep), 1596.

Commissioner First District—Andrew J. Ham (rep), 253.

The Democrats placed a partial ticket in the field in 1886 but were unsuccessful in electing any of the nominees, although

Creek and Island Lake; No. 5, Monroe, Custer, Rock Lake and Shelburne.

<sup>25</sup>E. St. Julian Cox, the preceding incumbent, had been impeached and removed from office. H. D. Baldwin had been appointed to the office and served a short time before this election.

<sup>26</sup>Resigned October 3, 1883, and C. E. Persons appointed.

<sup>27</sup>Resigned and on December 16, 1884, Leslie A. Gregg appointed.

they polled nearly 600 votes. The highest vote cast for any one office was 1528. The vote for candidates was as follows:

Governor—A. R. McGill (rep), 1109; A. A. Ames (dem), 332; James E. Child (pro), 84.

Congressman—John Lind (rep), 1053; A. H. Bullis (dem), 411; George J. Day (pro), 60.

Senator—Ole O. Lende (rep), 1483.

Representatives—John Hanson (rep), 1321; John Noble (rep), 1500; Gustav Erickson, 159.

Auditor—James Lawrence (rep), 989; John S. Renninger (dem), 538.

Treasurer—George Little (rep), 1516.

Sheriff—J. F. Remore (rep), 1494.

Register of Deeds—R. R. Bumford (rep), 932; M. E. Wilcox (dem), 596.

Judge of Probate—F. S. Brown (rep), 1496.

Attorney—A. C. Forbes (rep), 944; Charles W. Main (dem), 572.

Clerk of Court—E. S. Reishus (rep), 1422.

Court Commissioner—Daniel Wilcox (rep), 1517.

Coroner—C. E. Persons (rep), 1238; S. E. Sanderson (dem), 287.

Surveyor—J. W. Blake (rep), 1500.

Superintendent of Schools—L. A. Gregg<sup>28</sup> (rep), 1166; T. H. Webb (dem), 366.

Commissioner First District—W. W. Rich<sup>29</sup> (rep), 215.

Commissioner Second District—Ole L. Orsen (rep), 82; Fred Holritz, 67; John O'Brien, 76.

Commissioner Third District—Robert Gardner (rep), 148; J. W. Hoagland, 126; W. W. Maleroy, 11.

Commissioner Fourth District—Hugh Neill (rep), 254; F. S. Wetherbee, 65; J. W. Williams, 76.

Commissioner Fifth District—E. L. Starr (rep), 271; H. B. Swartwood, 89.

The Republicans, Democrats and Prohibitionists named county tickets for the election of 1888 and the campaign was quite spirited, although the dominant party was uniformly successful. The total vote was 1826—the largest yet cast in the county—and was divided as follows:

President—Benjamin Harrison (rep), 1138; Grover Cleveland (dem), 475; Clinton B. Fisk (pro), 207.

Governor—William R. Merriam (rep), 1098; Eugene M. Wilson (dem), 485; Hugh Harrison (pro), 235.

Congressman—John Lind (rep), 1152; Morton S. Wilkinson (dem), 473; D. W. Edwards (pro), 188.

Judge District Court—B. F. Webber (rep), 1818.

Representatives—A. C. Forbes (rep), 1065; A. J. Crane (rep), 1087; Wakeman (pro), 217.

Auditor—Thomas P. Baldwin (rep), 1009; Louis Larson (pro), 789.

Treasurer—George Little (rep), 1168; George C. Mantell (dem), 316; A. R. Thompson (pro), 331.

Sheriff—J. F. Remore (rep), 1256; S. B. Green (dem), 343; W. G. Hunter (pro), 210.

Register of Deeds—James B. Gibbons (rep), 1022; Philip Letournau (dem), 661; K. E. Kjorness (pro), 113.

Judge of Probate—F. S. Brown (rep), 1234; M. E. Mathews (dem), 374; J. W. Serles (pro), 198.

Attorney—V. B. Seward (dem-rep), 1511.

Superintendent of Schools—W. R. Edwards (rep), 1305; Mrs. L. F. Ferro (pro), 303.

Court Commissioner—D. F. Wey-

<sup>28</sup>Resigned November 22, 1888, and W. R. Edwards, the superintendent-elect, completed the short unexpired term.

<sup>29</sup>Resigned in January, 1888, and Frank D. Wasson chosen by the appointing board.

mouth (rep), 1153; J. V. Mallory (dem), 458; S. B. Wheeler (pro), 204.

Coroner—C. E. Persons (rep), 1150; J. S. Renninger (dem), 468; B. C. Emery (pro), 199.

Surveyor—J. W. Blake (rep), 1135; George V. Link (dem), 475; Richard Morgan (pro), 211.

Commissioner First District—O. H. Hatlestad (rep), 196; John C. Lines (dem), 84; G. M. Robinson (pro), 22.

Commissioner Third District—J. H. Cutler (rep), 140; Robert Gardner<sup>30</sup> (pro), 199.

Commissioner Fifth District—James J. Hartigan (rep), 344; O. J. Rea (dem), 54; J. P. Davis (pro), 39.

The election of 1890 brought a radical change in Lyon county politics, caused by the entrance of the farmers alliance. Before that date the Republican party had met but slight opposition, contending occasionally with a "Peoples" ticket or independent candidates. Now the Alliance party, rapidly gaining strength, put a complete ticket in the field and gave real opposition to the dominant party. The campaign preceding the election was bitter and one of the most hotly contested in the history of the county. The Alliance carried the county for their nominees for governor, congressman and the representatives (who had been indorsed by the Republicans) and elected superintendent of schools and two commissioners. An independent carried the county for senator and the other county offices went to the Republicans. The total vote was 1795. The result as canvassed:

Governor—William R. Merriam (rep), 605; Thomas J. Wilson (dem), 404; Sidney M. Owen (all), 714; J. P. Pinkham (pro), 66.

<sup>30</sup>Resigned January 7, 1890, because of removal from the district, and on January 20 S. O. Herrick named as his successor.

Congressman—John Lind (rep), 829; James H. Baker (all), 877.

Senator—Hans Lavesson (rep), 438; Orrin Mott (all), 465; H. M. Burchard (ind), 769.

Representatives—C. H. White (all-rep), 1760; O. C. Wilson (all-rep), 1764.

Auditor—Thomas P. Baldwin (rep), 1080; James F. Gibb (all), 696.

Treasurer—George Little (rep), 1073; H. B. Loomis (all), 709.

Sheriff—J. F. Remore (rep), 1159; K. E. Kjorness (all), 606.

Register of Deeds—J. B. Gibbons (rep), 1059; Webb (all), 709.

Judge of Probate—F. S. Brown (rep), 1115; Perry Newton (all), 669.

Attorney—V. B. Seward (rep), 1036; H. A. Baker (all), 730.

Clerk of Court—E. S. Reishus (rep), 1125; D. F. Wasson (all), 637.

Superintendent of Schools—W. R. Edwards (rep), 950; S. L. Wait (all), 1064.

Court Commissioner—E. B. Jewett (rep), 1033; M. E. Wilcox (all), 740.

Coroner—C. E. Persons (rep), 1104.

Surveyor—J. W. Blake (rep), 983; George W. Link (all), 741.

Commissioner Second District—Oliver T. Moe (rep), 84; O. J. Wignes (all), 119.

Commissioner Third District—Robert Riddell (rep), 152; S. O. Herrick (all), 169.

Commissioner Fourth District—Hugh Neill (rep), 325; J. W. Pike (all), 111.

The Peoples Party succeeded the Alliance forces in 1892 and by combining with the Democrats elected three county officers. The total vote was 2256 and the result follows:

President—Benjamin Harrison (rep), 1069; Grover Cleveland (dem), 584<sup>31</sup>;

<sup>31</sup>Fusion was effected on some of the Democratic and Peoples Party presidential electors in Minnesota and those electors received 750 votes in Lyon county.

James B. Weaver (pp), 358; Silas Bidwell (pro), 271.

Governor—Knut Nelson (rep), 1009; D. W. Lawler (dem), 514; Ignatius Donnelly (pp), 319; William J. Dean (pro), 257.

Congressman—James T. McCleary (rep), 981; W. S. Hammond (dem), 452; L. C. Long (pp), 353; E. H. Bronson (pro), 282.

Representatives—L. S. Tyler (rep), 1011; Ole Lende (rep), 806; James Gibb (pp-dem), 699; O. C. Wilson (pp-dem), 611; A. R. Chace (pro), 326; A. L. Foster (pro), 210.

Auditor—Ole Kelson (rep), 730; C. H. White (pp-dem), 601; A. L. Baldwin (pro), 329; T. B. Baldwin (ind), 465.

Treasurer—Robert Riddell (rep), 454; S. Odell (pp-dem), 600; Seth Johnson (pro), 281; George Little (ind), 833.

Sheriff—J. F. Remore (rep), 1327; G. A. Dalmann (pp-dem), 527; W. G. Hunter (pro), 301.

Register of Deeds—J. B. Gibbons (rep), 978; A. O. Anderson (pp-dem), 787; E. I. Leland (pro), 390.

Judge of Probate—O. E. Maxson (rep), 970; C. W. Main (pp-dem), 891; A. P. Whitney (pro), 277.

Attorney—F. S. Brown (rep), 962; M. E. Mathews<sup>32</sup> (pp-dem), 964; T. M. Quarton (pro), 250.

Superintendent of Schools—D. C. Pierce (rep), 750; S. L. Wait (pp-dem), 945; J. F. Durst (pro), 628.

Coroner—C. E. Persons (pp-dem-rep), 1466; C. M. Ferro (pro), 436.

Surveyor—O. H. Sterk (pp-dem), 1017; L. S. Teigland (pro), 597.

Commissioner First District—O. H. Hatlestad (rep), 209; Robert Heilman (pp-dem), 218.

Commissioner Third District—James

Murrison (rep), 188; J. J. Thomas (pp-dem), 108; S. O. Herrick (ind), 113.

Commissioner Fifth District—J. J. Hartigan<sup>33</sup> (rep), 226; W. S. Moses (pp-dem), 69; Louis Rialson (pro), 126.

In 1894 fusion was effected on only a few of the offices and there were four partial tickets in the field. The Republicans were generally successful, although the opposition carried the county for one representative and elected the county attorney and clerk of court. The vote was 2721 and the several candidates received votes as follows:

Governor—Knut Nelson (rep), 1272; George L. Becker (dem), 166; S. M. Owen (pp), 1052; Hans S. Hilleboe (pro), 149.

Congressman—James T. McCleary (rep), 1318; James H. Baker (dem), 206; L. C. Long (pp), 893; H. S. Kellom (pro), 161.

Senator—Charles C. Whitney (rep), 1181; E. S. Reishus (pp), 1127; D. H. Evans (pro), 301.

Representatives—F. W. Nash (rep), 1294; George E. Olds (rep), 835; D. T. Jones (pp), 907; L. I. Leland (pp), 786; M. F. Woodard (pro), 201.

Judge District Court—B. F. Webber (non-partisan), 1816.

Auditor—Ole Kelson (rep), 1407; C. H. White (pp), 952; C. D. Brimmer (pro), 166.

Treasurer—Eli S. Frick (rep), 1300; Ephraim Skyhawk (dem), 316; D. S. Phillips (pp), 930.

Sheriff—Andrew A. Christensen (rep), 1024; J. P. Peirard (dem), 449; O. J. Wignes (pp), 874; James Morgan (pro), 289.

Register of Deeds—S. N. Harrington (rep), 1245; John Michie (dem), 93; E. T. Mathews (pp), 1033; L. S. Teigland (pro), 243.

<sup>32</sup>Resigned September 24, 1894, and no successor appointed.

<sup>33</sup>Died November 24, 1894, and Ole F. Norwood chosen to complete the term.

Judge of Probate—O. E. Maxson (rep), 1362; C. W. Main (dem-pp), 1159.

Attorney—F. S. Brown (rep), 1196; V. B. Seward (pp-dem), 1249; T. M. Quarton (pro), 143.

Clerk of Court—O. H. Hatlestad (rep), 1113; S. Odell (pp), 1272; J. F. Durst (pro), 207.

Superintendent of Schools—J. P. Byrne (rep-pro), 1551; Mrs. T. H. Webb (dem), 185; S. L. Wait (pp), 1100.

Coroner—C. E. Persons (rep), 1642; C. M. Ferro (pro), 527.

Surveyor—O. H. Sterk (rep), 2035.

Commissioner Second District—J. B. Johnson (rep), 143; C. P. Kenyon (dem), 85; K. S. Kvanbek (pp), 108; Ole L. Orsen (pro), 51.

Commissioner Fourth District—T. P. Baldwin (rep), 412; M. C. Kiel (pp), 191.

In 1896 the free silver issue gained many adherents in Lyon county. William Jennings Bryan, the Democratic standard bearer, received a large vote and John Lind carried the county for \*governor. The Peoples Party had a county ticket in the field and its nominees received large votes, several being elected. The total vote was 3066. The result in detail:

President—William McKinley (rep), 1623; W. J. Bryan (dem-pp), 1351; John M. Palmer (nat dem), 25; Levering (pro), 67.

Governor—David M. Clough (rep), 1384; John Lind (dem-pp), 1560; William J. Dean (pro), 56; A. A. Ames (ind), 3.

Congressman—James T. McCleary (rep), 1554; Frank A. Day (dem-pp), 1386; Richard Price (pro), 62.

Representatives—J. H. Manchester (rep), 1561; George E. Olds (rep), 1235; John T. Mooney (pp), 1329; David T. Jones (pp), 1181.

Auditor—Ole Kelson<sup>34</sup> (rep), 1617; O. F. Norwood (pp), 1411.

Treasurer—Eli S. Frick (rep), 1623; Hubert M. Gray (pp), 1377.

Sheriff—Andrew A. Christensen (rep), 1866; H. M. Dwyre (pp), 1187.

Register of Deeds—S. N. Harrington (rep), 1605; Arne Anderson (pp), 1426.

Judge of Probate—O. E. Maxson (rep), 1625; C. M. Gislason (pp), 1386.

Attorney—F. S. Brown (rep), 1621; C. W. Main (pp), 1414.

Superintendent of Schools—J. P. Byrne (rep), 1637; Mrs. Dell W. Forbes (pp), 2046.

Coroner—C. E. Persons (rep), 1697; S. E. Sanderson (pp), 1271.

Surveyor—O. H. Sterk (pp), 2015.

Commissioner First District—Erik Roti (rep), 279; Robert Heilman<sup>35</sup> (pp), 310.

Commissioner Third District—James Murrison (rep), 302; D. S. Phillips (pp), 331.

Commissioner Fifth District—J. A. Hunter (rep), 318; George P. Erb (pp), 279.

Again in 1898 the Democratic-Peoples Party candidate for governor carried the county, as also did one of that party's nominees for the Legislature. On the county ticket the Peoples Party, which was the only one in opposition to the Republican, elected clerk of court and superintendent of schools, while an independent was chosen one of the commissioners. There was a falling off in the vote, only 2285 being cast. The result:

Governor—William H. Eustis (rep), 976; John Lind (dem-pp), 1141; George W. Higgins (pro), 62; L. C. Long (middle road populist), 32; William B. Hammond (soc lab), 3.

<sup>34</sup>Died September 19, 1898, and Charles H. Kelson, a son, was appointed to complete the short unexpired term.

<sup>35</sup>Resigned January 31, 1899, and was succeeded by Horace G. Hoffman.

Congressman—James T. McCleary (rep), 1092; D. H. Evans (pp-dem), 1061; T. P. Grout (pro), 65.

Senator—Louis H. Shellbach (rep), 1123; E. S. Reishus (pp), 1040.

Representatives—John G. Schutz (rep), 1165; Charles W. Stites (rep), 854; John S. Mooney (pp), 903; Chr. Christianson (pp), 834.

Auditor—Thomas McKinley (rep), 1181; O. F. Norwood (pp), 1031.

Treasurer—Eli S. Frick (rep), 1180; Hubert M. Gray (pp), 994.

Sheriff—Andrew A. Christensen (rep), 1877.

Register of Deeds—S. N. Harrington (rep), 1214; Martin Furgeson (pp), 972.

Judge of Probate—L. M. Lange (rep), 1304; S. L. Wait (pp), 878.

Attorney—F. S. Brown (rep), 1150; M. E. Mathews (pp), 1079.

Clerk of Court—E. I. Leland (rep), 934; S. Odell (pp), 1306.

Superintendent of Schools—Mrs. Addie M. Whiting (rep), 1066; Mrs. Dell W. Forbes (pp), 1752.

Coroner—C. E. Persons (rep), 1740.

Surveyor—W. A. Hawkins (rep), 1222; O. H. Sterk (pp), 1031.

Commissioner Second District—P. O. French (rep), 81; K. S. Kvanbeck (pp), 121; Ole J. Wignes (ind), 127.

Commissioner Fourth District—T. P. Baldwin (rep), 322; C. H. White (pp), 209.

The Republicans made almost a clean sweep in 1900, carrying the county for all national, state, congressional and legislative nominees and electing all the county officers except superintendent of schools. The number of ballots cast was 3033 and the vote in detail was as follows:

President—William McKinley (rep), 1844; W. J. Bryan (dem-pp), 879; John

G. Woolley (pro), 111; E. V. Debs (soc dem), 16; Malloney (soc lab), 4.

Governor—Samuel R. Van Sant (rep), 1466; John Lind (dem-pp), 1308; Bernt B. Haugen (pro), 66; S. M. Fairchild (middle road populist), 17; Thomas H. Lucas (soc dem), 4; Edward Kriz (soc lab), 3.

Congressman—James T. McCleary (rep), 1601; M. E. Mathews (dem-pp), 1211; S. D. Works (pro), 86.

Judge District Court—B. F. Webber (non partisan), 2019.

Representatives—John G. Schutz (rep), 1690; Charles W. Stites (rep), 1505; D. H. Evans (pp), 1122; Chr. Christianson (pp), 903.

Auditor—Thomas McKinley (rep), 1962; J. T. Hanson (pp), 1071.

Treasurer—A. H. Dunton (rep), 1588; Charles Catlin (pp), 1220.

Sheriff—Andrew A. Christensen (rep), 2013; Ole J. Wignes (pp), 855.

Register of Deeds—S. N. Harrington (rep), 1787; Martin Furgeson (pp), 1064.

Judge of Probate—L. M. Lange (rep), 2336.

Attorney—E. C. Patterson (rep), 1480; C. W. Main (dem-pp), 1400.

Superintendent of Schools—Mrs. Dell W. Forbes (pp), 2236.

Court Commissioner—Walter Wake-man (rep), 2227.

Coroner—C. E. Persons (rep), 2265.

Surveyor—W. A. Hawkins (rep), 2303.

Commissioner First District—O. H. Hatlestad (rep), 301; Horace G. Hoffman (pp), 240.

Commissioner Third District—C. W. Candee<sup>36</sup> (rep), 382; D. S. Phillips (pp), 223.

Commissioner Fifth District—J. A. Hunter (rep), 333; A. R. Endersbee (pp), 218.

The primary election law went into

<sup>36</sup>Died November 2, 1903. John N. Jones succeeded to the office.



#### HOME OF A PIONEER

Home of Captain Langdon at the Old Watermill in the Once Flourishing Village of Camden.



#### EARLY DAY FARM HOME

Erected by Griff Hughes on Section 9, Custer Township, in the Fall of 1889.



effect in 1902, and since that time party nominations have been made by direct vote of the people instead of the old style county conventions. This has resulted in revolutionizing county politics. Lyon county being normally strongly Republican, the principal campaign is now made for the Republican nomination and there are seldom contests for county office at the general election.

The first primary election in Lyon county was held September 16, 1902, and there were contests only among the Republicans. The result of the balloting where more than one sought the office was as follows:

Congressman—M. J. Dowling, 1041; A. J. Volstead, 620; E. T. Young, 163.

Senator—John G. Schutz, 1151; C. W. Stites, 678.

Representatives—J. H. Catlin, 695; Gustav Erickson, 819; A. H. Mahler, 387; H. W. Ruliffson, 1078.

Register of Deeds—J. W. Andrews, 477; S. N. Harrington, 1268.

Attorney—Thomas E. Davis, 1035; E. C. Patterson, 771.

Clerk of Court—G. B. Bjornson, 910; A. G. Bumford, 913.

Commissioner Second District—C. K. Melby, 192; Ole L. Orsen, 96.

The result of the general election of 1902, at which 2494 ballots were cast, was as follows:

Governor—Samuel R. Van Sant (rep), 1784; Leonard A. Rosing (dem), 534; Thomas J. Meighen (pp), 69; Charles Scanlon (pro), 91; J. E. Nash, 3; Thomas Van Lear (soc lab), 11.

Congressman—A. J. Volstead (rep), 1871; August O. Forsberg (pp), 373; Knut Johnson (pro), 145.

Senator—John G. Schutz (rep), 1925.

Representatives—H. W. Ruliffson

(rep), 1741; Gustav Erickson (rep), 1544; John J. Moonéy (pp), 495.

Auditor—Thomas McKinley (rep), 2161.

Treasurer—A. H. Dunton (rep), 2055.

Sheriff—Andrew A. Christensen (rep), 2226.

Register of Deeds—S. N. Harrington<sup>37</sup> (rep), 2172.

Judge of Probate—L. M. Lange<sup>38</sup> (rep), 2103.

Attorney—Thomas E. Davis (rep), 1469; E. B. Johnson (ind), 1025.

Clerk of Court—A. G. Bumford (rep), 2115.

Superintendent of Schools—H. R. Painter (rep), 1263; Mrs. Dell W. Forbes (non partisan), 1973.

Surveyor—W. A. Hawkins (rep), 2056.

Commissioner Second District—C. K. Melby (rep), 240; O. J. Wignes (ind), 171.

Commissioner Fourth District—Levi S. Kiel (rep), 523.

The contests in the Republican primary election of 1904 were decided as follows:

Representatives—Gustav Erickson, 883; Marcus Lauritsen, 689; John McKenzie, 843; H. W. Ruliffson, 995.

Treasurer—C. J. Berdan, 847; A. H. Dunton, 1054.

Sheriff—Andrew A. Christensen, 1251; H. O. Clark, 694.

Judge of Probate—E. C. Patterson, 937; Walter Wakeman, 935.

Commissioner Third District—J. N. Jones, 215; L. E. Peterson, 179.

At the 1904 general election 3134 ballots were cast, the largest number in the history of the county, before or since. For president Theodore Roosevelt received a record breaking majority

<sup>37</sup>Died September 12, 1903. M. E. Drake received the appointment and completed the term.

<sup>38</sup>Resigned and was succeeded by E. C. Patterson June 1, 1903.

over Alton B. Parker. The vote for the several nominees was as follows:

President—Theodore Roosevelt (rep), 2394; Alton B. Parker (dem), 331; Thomas Watson (pp), 52; Swallow (pro), 107; E. V. Debs (pub own), 50.

Governor—Robert C. Dunn (rep), 1658; John A. Johnson (dem), 1268; Charles W. Dorsett (pro), 82; J. E. Nash (pub own), 15; A. W. M. Anderson (soc lab), 14.

Congressman—A. J. Volstead (rep), 2611.

Representatives—Marcus Lauritsen (rep), 2285; Gustav Erickson (rep), 2317.

Auditor—Thomas McKinley (rep), 2704.

Treasurer—A. H. Dunton (rep), 2691.

Sheriff—Andrew A. Christensen (rep), 2751.

Register of Deeds—M. E. Drake (rep), 2656.

Judge of Probate—E. C. Patterson (rep), 2449.

Attorney—Thomas E. Davis (rep), 1460; Bjorn B. Gislason (ind), 1674.

Superintendent of Schools—Mrs. Dell W. Forbes (non partisan), 2580.

Coroner—J. B. Robertson (rep), 2250.

Surveyor—W. A. Hawkins (rep), 2449.

Commissioner First District—O. H. Hatlestad (rep), 504.

Commissioner Third District—John N. Jones (rep), 382; S. W. Galbraith (ind), 240.

Commissioner Fifth District—J. M. Wardell (rep), 488.

There were many candidates for the Republican nominations in 1906 and the results were as follows:

Judge District Court—L. G. Davis, 506; Joseph A. Eckstein, 519; I. M. Olsen, 1140; B. F. Webber, 320.

Senator—Robert Faulds, 103; Marcus

Lauritsen, 753; Ole Ostensoe, 186; V. B. Seward, 1800.

Representatives—H. M. Hanson, 1359; I. L. Kolhei, 964; C. K. Melby, 1476.

Auditor—Thomas McKinley, 782; Ernest S. Shepard, 2019.

Treasurer—A. H. Dunton, 544; J. H. Dahl, 707; Elmer E. Foster, 498; R. M. Neill, 1089; F. S. Purdy, 81.

Sheriff—Andrew A. Christensen, 1407; M. E. Grannan, 1527.

Register of Deeds—M. E. Drake, 2010; George D. Fitch, 669.

Judge of Probate—Walter Wakeman, 1381; O. F. Woodard, 1432.

Clerk of Court—C. J. Berdan, 596; A. G. Bumford, 1515; Frank C. Whitney, 737.

Surveyor—W. A. Hawkins, 1059; O. H. Sterk, 1562.

Commissioner Second District—Ole E. Rye, 203; T. K. Thompson, 224.

At the 1906 general election 2293 votes were polled and the results were as follows:

Governor—A. L. Cole (rep), 815; John A. Johnson (dem), 1288; Charles W. Dorsett (pro), 112; O. E. Lofthus (pub own), 19.

Judge District Court—I. M. Olsen (rep), 954; Albert Steinhauser (dem), 100; M. E. Mathews (non partisan), 1181.

Congressman—A. J. Volstead (rep), 1840.

Senator—V. B. Seward (rep), 1798.

Representatives—H. M. Hanson (rep), 1536; C. K. Melby (rep), 1452.

Auditor—Ernest S. Shepard (rep), 1956.

Treasurer—R. M. Neill (rep), 1909.

Sheriff M. E. Grannan (rep), 1607.

Register of Deeds—M. E. Drake (rep), 1907.

Judge of Probate O. F. Woodard (rep), 1858.

Attorney—N. J. Robinson (rep), 1849.  
Clerk of Court—A. G. Bumford (rep), 1910.

Superintendent of Schools—H. R. Painter (rep), 1622; Mrs. Dell W. Forbes (non partisan), 1512.

Coroner—J. B. Robertson (rep), 1767.  
Surveyor—O. H. Sterk (rep), 1817.

Commissioner Second District—T. K. Thompson (rep), 300.

Commissioner Fourth District—Levi S. Kiel (rep), 430.

Only a few contested for the Republican nominations in 1908 and the results were as follows:

Representatives—John N. Johnson, 1169; C. K. Melby, 1109; Thomas Stringer, 640.

Judge of Probate—John E. Regan, 596; O. F. Woodard, 1274.

Commissioner First District—O. H. Hatlestad, 166; Ludwig E. Larson, 153.

Commissioner Third District—Claus G. Johnson, 81; Evan M. Jones, 139; John N. Jones, 132; George A. Tate, 151.

Commissioner Fifth District—H. J. Cain, 131; J. M. Wardell, 203.

The general election of 1908 brought forth 2987 voters. The vote in detail:

President—W. H. Taft (rep), 1618; W. J. Bryan (dem), 1043; Eugene W. Chafin (pro), 146; E. V. Debs (pub own), 46; Thomas L. Hisgen (independence), 1.

Governor—Jacob F. Jacobson (rep), 1530; John A. Johnson (dem), 1209; George D. Haggard (pro), 106; Beecher Moore (pub own), 19; William W. Allen (independence), 3.

Congressman—A. J. Volstead (rep), 2054.

Representatives—John N. Johnson (rep), 1424; C. K. Melby (rep), 1589; W. C. Gaugh (pro), 583; Alfred Soderlind (ind), 915.

Auditor—Ernest S. Shepard (rep), 2280.

Treasurer—R. M. Neill (rep), 2236.

Sheriff—M. E. Grannan (rep), 2157.

Register of Deeds—M. E. Drake (rep), 2254.

Judge of Probate—O. F. Woodard (rep), 2283.

Attorney—N. J. Robinson (rep), 2152.

Superintendent of Schools—H. R. Painter (rep), 2229.

Coroner—J. B. Robertson (rep), 2043.

Surveyor—O. H. Sterk (rep), 2163.

Commissioner First District—O. H. Hatlestad (rep), 285; Peter T. Dahl (ind), 252.

Commissioner Third District—George A. Tate (rep), 302; C. E. Etrheim (dem), 396.

Commissioner Fifth District—J. M. Wardell<sup>39</sup> (rep), 392.

The results of the Republican primary election of 1910 for the offices sought by more than one candidate were as follows:

Senator—Olai A. Lende, 1351; V. B. Seward, 1273.

Representatives—J. H. Catlin, 1044; Edwin F. Whiting, 1419.

Sheriff—M. E. Grannan, 1390; R. A. Mitchell, 1161.

Register of Deeds—Boyd Champlain, 947; M. E. Drake, 1513.

Judge of Probate—John Michie, 774; O. F. Woodard, 1709.

Superintendent of Schools—Lucy A. Mercer, 794; H. R. Painter, 1878.

Surveyor—J. D. Lanoue, 616; O. H. Sterk, 1662.

Commissioner Fourth District—E. E. Davis, 312; Levi S. Kiel, 255; S. W. Orr, 110.

At the last general election before the publication of this volume—that of

<sup>39</sup>Mr. Wardell resigned in the spring of 1912 on account of ill health and died a few weeks later. H. F. Seiter was chosen to complete the term.

1910 the total vote cast was 2507.<sup>40</sup> The vote was divided among the several nominees as follows:

Governor—A. O. Eberhart (rep), 1158; James Gray (dem), 1091; J. F. Heiberg (pro), 90; George E. Barrett (pub own), 24; C. W. Brandborg (soc lab), 33.

Congressman—A. J. Volstead (rep), 1844.

Senator—Olai A. Lende (rep), 1867.

Representative—Edwin F. Whiting (rep), 1745; Cain (ind), 311.

Auditor—Ernest S. Shepard (rep), 1944.

Treasurer—R. M. Neill (rep), 1983.

Sheriff—M. E. Grannan (rep), 1266; John Munroe (dem), 1192.

Register of Deeds—M. E. Drake (rep), 1945.

Judge of Probate—O. F. Woodard (rep), 1929.

Attorney—James H. Hall (rep), 1220; James Von Williams (dem), 1178.

Clerk of Court—A. G. Bumford (rep), 1953.

Superintendent of Schools—H. R. Painter (rep), 1942.

Coroner—J. B. Robertson (rep), 1839.

Surveyor—O. H. Sterk (rep), 1911.

Commissioner Second District—T. K. Thompson (rep), 167; James McGinn (dem), 176.

Commissioner Fourth District—E. E. Davis (rep), 398; Levi S. Kiel (ind), 267.

And now the political history of Lyon county is brought to a close. It covers a period from the time in 1870 when the first official took the oath of office—when there were less than one hundred voters in the county—up to and including the last general election before the publication of this volume. A brief

summary of conditions during this time may not be out of place.

The county has always been normally Republican and in the early days was overwhelmingly so. Although the party of Jefferson polled fair sized votes at several elections, it has never carried the county for the national ticket; at three elections it carried the county for its nominees for governor.

During the entire early history of the county, the Republican was the only party maintaining an organization. But during that time there was a strong independent movement, kept alive by one faction of the Republican party and the Democrats, which opposed the Republican organization and on several occasions gained partial control of county politics. With the later settlement of the county came the organization of the Democratic party, and since that time it has been a factor in county politics, although always as a minority party. Since primary election days it has participated in local politics only to a limited extent.

In the free silver days of the nineties the Alliance, succeeded after one campaign by the Peoples Party, came into existence, carried the county for governor and congressman at one election, and became a power in local politics. Fusion between the Peoples Party and Democrats was accomplished and for some time the combined forces furnished opposition to the dominant party.

The Prohibitionists have never been strong in Lyon county. In a few campaigns they placed nominees for county offices in the field: Socialists and other minor parties have little or no strength in the county.

<sup>40</sup>The vote of the county at the first election, in 1870, was 78, and in 1873, while the present Lincoln county was included in it, it was 502. The total vote cast at each election since that time was as follows: 1874, 453; 1875, 238; 1876, 606; 1877, 399; 1878, 698;

1879, 536; 1880, 1336; 1881, 601; 1882, 1118; 1883, 748; 1884, 1608; 1885, 1528; 1888, 1826; 1890, 1795; 1892, 2256; 1894, 2721; 1896, 3066; 1898, 2285; 1900, 3033; 1902, 2494; 1904, 3134; 1906, 2293; 1908, 2987; 1910, 2507.

## CHAPTER IX.

### MARSHALL—1872-1912.

MARSHALL, the capital of Lyon county, is the largest and oldest existing town in the county. It is located at the Big Bend of the Redwood river, and its elevation above sea level is 1174 feet. It is a station on the Chicago & Northwestern railroad and the Great Northern railroad. Otherwise described, Marshall is on section 4, Lake Marshall township, and the business center of the city is only three miles, in a direct line, from the geographical center of the county.

The population of Marshall in 1910 was 2152, but there has been an increase since that time and a census today would show a population of about 2500. It is one of the progressive and prosperous towns of Southwestern Minnesota. All lines of business that are to be found in the towns of agricultural communities of the upper Mississippi valley are represented. It is noted for its beautiful homes, schools, churches and social organizations, and in these respects it is the peer of any city of its size in the state.

Considered in its natural state, the location of Marshall is one of unusual beauty; Southwestern Minnesota has not a more lovely spot. Through the eastern part of the city flows the Redwood river, skirted by a growth of natural timber, which forms a series of

pretty little parks. In its natural state and with the embellishments added by the hands of man, Marshall ranks as one of the prettiest little cities in a state distinguished for its pretty towns. Especially is one charmed with its loveliness in summer. Then the broad avenues and parks are clothed in brightest green; trees are everywhere.

One can hardly realize that less than a half century ago this spot was an uncharted wilderness, practically unknown to white men; yet such is the case. Time was when the dusky red man pitched his tepee where now Marshall's churches are located; vast herds of bison inhabited the surrounding country and made their wallows, perhaps, where now our courts are held; timid deer browsed where at present the pupil studies his natural history; elk in countless numbers roamed the adjacent prairies and saw their antlers reflected in the clear waters of the Redwood as they bent down to drink.

When the first white man set foot on the site of the city is not known. Possibly he was some adventurous trapper who had pushed out beyond his associates to locate new grounds in which to ply his trade, and, having come to the Redwood river, proceeded up the stream to the point where was later founded the city. Maybe Joseph La

Framboise in the thirties or James W. Lynd in the fifties, in their operations in Lyon county, visited the Big Bend of the Redwood and were the first to stand upon the site. Possibly the first was a member of one of the exploring parties that visited Southwestern Minnesota in an early day.

History records that wherever the North American Indians were in the habit of gathering for purposes of residence, council, worship or barter, those spots have invariably been selected by white men on which to locate their centers of population. There is scarce an instance to the contrary, and, indeed, it would have been remarkable had a city not been founded where Marshall now stands. For the Big Bend of the Redwood was a well-known spot to the aborigines; there they were wont to gather and make their camps while on the warpath or hunt, and it came to be a popular assembling ground. Trails extended from it in four directions: northward to the Lac qui Parle country; southward, past Lake Marshall, to the Cottonwood river country and Lake Shetek; southwestward, up the Redwood river, to the Lynd woods and the famous Pipestone quarries; northeastward, down the Redwood, to the present site of Redwood Falls and the Minnesota river.

The land on which Marshall was later built (section 4, Lake Marshall township) was without a claimant until the summer of 1869. At that time C. H. Whitney and C. H. Upton, accompanied by others, came to the county and located claims thereon, Mr. Whitney taking the southeast quarter and Mr. Upton the northeast quarter. They

broke a little land on each of those claims and also on the northwest quarter of the same section, which was reserved as the claim of Mrs. Ursula Stone, mother-in-law of Mr. Upton and a soldier's widow. These gentlemen departed from their claims on June 15, and on the eighteenth made their filings in the land office at New Ulm.

Messrs. Whitney and Upton returned on June 1, 1870. Mr. Whitney built a sod shanty on his claim—the first building erected in Marshall, though not the first in the village as originally platted—and Mr. Upton put up a sod shanty on his claim, both being on the east side of the river and not in the original platted portion, but in additions later made. Although there was no prospect of the founding of a village at the time, Mr. Whitney, on October 17, 1870, secured the establishment of a post-office, which was located on his claim and of which he became postmaster. The office was named Marshall<sup>1</sup> and was operated as a country postoffice until the village was founded.

During 1870 a number of settlers located in the vicinity of the village-to-be and the Marshall postoffice became a sort of social center for those living in the neighborhood. Late in May, 1871, Mrs. Ursula Stone and Milo Morse arrived and selected as their claims the remaining land on section 4, Mr. Morse filing on the southwest quarter and Mrs. Stone on the northwest quarter. In June Mr. Morse, assisted by his neighbors, built a sod shanty at a point on his claim which is about where the Van Dusen elevator now stands, close to the Northwestern tracks.<sup>2</sup>

Not until early in 1872 was there

<sup>1</sup>The proximity of Lake Marshall doubtless suggested the name of the postoffice to Mr. Whitney. The lake was named in honor of Governor William B. Marshall. The village was not named after Lake Marshall or in honor of Governor Marshall, but after this postoffice.

<sup>2</sup>"I helped to build the first house on the original townsite of Marshall, in June, 1871. It was a sod house. The original homesteader, Milo Morse, held a 'bee' and the Bellinghams, Al Bean, myself and others attended."—G. M. Durst.

thought of a village at the Big Bend. Then came rumors of the proposed extension of the Winona & St. Peter railroad through Lyon county, and a little later came the surveyors who selected the route. The people at the Big Bend early put in a claim for a station on the proposed road, but their claim was opposed by the settlers at the point where the road would cross Three-Mile creek, close to the present village of Ghent. For a time the choice was in doubt, but the settlers at the Big Bend were triumphant, largely through the exertions of C. H. Whitney. He made a trip to the land office at Redwood Falls, secured data concerning the land filings in the two neighborhoods, and presented the matter to the railroad authorities in such light that they promised the Lyon county station should be at the point where the road would cross the Redwood river.

It was not long after the selection of the site was made before there were signs of a village. The first building erected, excepting the sod houses before mentioned, was put up in June, 1872. It was a little frame building erected by the railroad company for the use of its engineers and stood where the Lawrence furniture store is now. The second building was put up about the same time and stood in the middle of Third Street, facing Main, in front of the site now occupied by the Lyon County National Bank. Its dimensions were 13x16 feet, with a lean-to, and the lumber it contained was hauled from

New Ulm. The builders were William Everett, R. M. Addison and Charles A. DeGraff (the latter the head of the contracting firm which built the railroad), who formed the firm of William Everett & Company for the purpose of engaging in business in the proposed town. A large stock of goods was carried and the firm did an enormous business from the start, most of the patrons being employes doing construction work.<sup>3</sup>

At a time when the only buildings on the site were the engineers' office, the Everett store building and the sod shanties of the homesteaders, and before it was platted, in July, 1872, Marshall was named. The momentous event occurred at a supper served a party of railroad officials by Mrs. C. H. Whitney in the engineers' office.<sup>4</sup> There were present Vice President and Treasurer Sykes, General Manager Howe, General Superintendent Stewart, Attorney General Smith, Chief Engineer W. G. Ward, Assistant Engineer J. W. Blake, Contractor DeGraff and his son, Charles DeGraff.

During the meal the naming of the station was discussed and the following names were proposed, all in honor of some member of the party: Ward City, Howeville, DeGraffton, Stewartville and Blake City. No agreement was reached and W. G. Ward suggested that their hostess, Mrs. Whitney, name the station and the others assented. Having heard the discussion, Mrs. Whitney realized that the selection of one of the names

<sup>3</sup>The sales at this store the day it opened were \$2200, and they frequently were \$2000 to \$2500 per day. R. M. Addison and S. H. Mott succeeded to the business some time after the railroad came and a little later Mr. Addison became sole proprietor.

<sup>4</sup>"One day in July, 1872, Engineer John W. Blake dashed into the 'village' upon a sweat-dripping pony which he had ridden from Lamberton, starting at ten-thirty in the forenoon and arriving here at four-thirty in the afternoon. He stated to C. H. Whitney that the engineers and railroad officers had come to Lamberton by train and were then on their way by

teams to Marshall and must have supper when they arrived. Mrs. Whitney levied upon whatever the country afforded and prepared the repast in her house, and upon the arrival of the party it was conveyed to the engineers' office, and there occurred the first public repast held in this place. Major Blake says it was a meal fit for princes, and the wonder of all was that such an extensive array of viands could have been collected and prepared upon such short notice and upon the open prairie. A large number of people came with the party, but only the 'high joints' sat down to the repast in the office."—News-Messenger, September 16, 1887.

proposed might prove embarrassing, and she selected the name Marshall, after the postoffice conducted by her husband. The name was instantly accepted by the officials. With a libation of water<sup>5</sup> sprinkled upon the ground, General Smith baptized the new town, accompanying the ceremony with a speech in which he urged upon Marshall's foster parents the duty of using their influence in the cause of temperance within its limits. The party remained in Marshall over night and then continued their journey to Lake Kampeska.

But little progress was made in the building line before the railroad reached the town. Early in September Jesse Bagley built a little structure where the Watson hardware store now stands and used it as a boarding shanty. In September also Captain Herrick and Major Filkins set up a large tent (to the rear of the site of John Schneider's store) and conducted a saloon, which was liberally patronized by the railroad workers. In this tent while it was so employed, the first religious services in Marshall were conducted by Rev. E. H. Alden.

October was a busy month in the new town. It witnessed the arrival of the railroad on the twelfth, the opening of

a hotel on the same date, and the platting of the village on the twenty-second.

The hotel was erected by C. H. Whitney and was a substantial structure. It was located where the present Atlantic Hotel stands, was 35x40 feet and two stories high. Mr. Whitney had decided to build just one month before the hotel was opened to the public. On the twelfth of September he left for Winona to purchase the lumber. The stock was billed to "the end of the line," which proved to be near the present village of Amiret, and was hauled from that point by team. The structure was rushed to completion and was opened October 12, the day the first train was run to the town. Supper was provided for 275 men that evening.<sup>5</sup>

For the purpose of platting the Marshall townsite a partnership was formed by J. H. Stewart, superintendent of the Winona & St. Peter Railroad Company; J. H. Jenkins, assistant superintendent; W. G. Ward, chief engineer; J. W. Blake, assistant engineer; and C. H. Whitney. They purchased the southwest quarter of section 4 from Milo Morse and the south half of the northwest quarter from Mrs. Stone and laid out the town on portions of those tracts

<sup>5</sup>A little more than a week after the hotel was opened, on October 20, an accident occurred which is well remembered by all who were present and is chronicled as an event in the history of Marshall. W. M. Todd, in correspondence to a Winona paper at the time of the accident, wrote of it as follows:

"Inside this hotel last Tuesday evening occurred an accident that is well worthy of notice, even in a metropolitan paper, and that published at a great distance away. The train from the east that evening was loaded with passengers and it contained all the railroad men employed by the company at this place. All took a bee-line for the hotel and demanded rest and refreshments. Charlie's eyes bulged out when he surveyed the multitude, but he yelled, 'Come in and we will do the best we can.' In went the throng, and as there was not room enough elsewhere, it pressed into the dining room. Supper being ready, all who could surrounded the table and the rest stood up anywhere they could find room.

"The room was already full and commenced to pack when the weight caused the floor to break, and down went table, dishes, chairs, trunks, satchels, men, women, children, babies and all in one promiscuous mass into the cellar below. The author of this description was sitting on a broom handle, play-horse-fashion, waiting for his turn at the coffee and boiled

beef, having taken a big dose of quinine and whisky to scare off a threatening ague chill, and as he saw everything begin to go down, he sprang across the 'bloody chasm' and landed in the kitchen. When he looked back into the dark cellar and saw the shadowy forms of the struggling victims trying to extricate themselves and heard the shrieks of the sex which caused the downfall of man once before, he was, to say the least, sorry he had invested. In the dining room and office were nearly two hundred persons, and as the lower floor of the whole house except the kitchen went down, the most of this number went down with it.

"Digging out the ruins, human and otherwise, began with a vengeance." It was found that no one was hurt in going down, but some were bruised in being 'snaked out.' A Miss Smith, manager of the dining room, who was under a trunk, was slightly injured. The fellow who lifts himself by his boot-straps was there and tried to pull her from under the trunk while bracing his feet on the top of it. Many complained the next morning of bruised shins, particularly 'Deacon' Knowles, the clerk, who jumped clear over a table to rescue a bull-dog. Another evidence of the way things are done here is the fact that this cellar was cleaned out and a new floor laid before four o'clock the next morning, and upwards of three hundred persons breakfasted there."

and of the southeast quarter, which was the property of Mr. Whitney.

The site was surveyed by James A. Craik. The certificate of the plat was made October 22 by William G. Ward, Ella C. Ward, Joseph H. Jenkins, Augusta M. Jenkins, James H. Stewart, Lucy J. Stewart, Florence E. Blake, all by John W. Blake, their attorney in fact, and by John W. Blake, Charles H. Whitney and Mary A. Whitney, personally. The certificate was acknowledged before William Langdon, register of deeds, and was filed in his office October 22, 1872.

The original plat consists of twenty-four blocks, mostly on the west side of the river. The streets running northeast and southwest were named East Third, East Second, West First, West Second, Third, Fourth, Fifth and Sixth. Those running northwest and southeast were named Marshall, Redwood, Lyon and Main.<sup>6</sup>

After the townsite was platted, although winter was close at hand, a number of buildings were put up and a few business enterprises started. Colonel

Samuel McPhail opened a law office, erecting a little structure on the site of the Lyric Theater that was later used as a claim shack. R. M. Addison and H. J. Tripp, who carried the mail between Redwood Falls and Lynd, formed a partnership and engaged in the implement business on the lot to the rear of the present Addison Block. David P. Billings came to the village and opened a general store. John A. Coleman erected a store building near the present Lyon County National Bank Building and engaged in business. Dr. S. V. Groesbeck and J. W. Blake erected residences, the first in the village, and the former later engaged in the drug business.

A Congregational church society was organized and a building in which to hold services was begun. Daniel Farquhar opened a blacksmith shop in a little building he erected near the Main Street bridge. W. M. Todd arrived in October and engaged in the lumber business, erecting a little office building in the rear of the present Youmans yards.<sup>7</sup> Among others who located in

<sup>6</sup>Additions to Marshall have been platted as follows: Blake's, by John W. Blake, April 9, 1877; surveyed by C. L. Van Fleet.

Addition A, by John Ward, June 7, 1877; surveyed by C. L. Van Fleet.

Railroad, by Winona & St. Peter Railroad Company, February 5, 1879; surveyed by Arthur Jacobi.

Stewart & Jenkins', by J. H. Jenkins and J. H. Stewart, September 23, 1886; surveyed by J. H. Jenkins.

Howard's, by Ellen Howard, April 26, 1887; surveyed by J. W. Blake.

Eastman's, by J. D. Eastman, March 31, 1900; surveyed by W. A. Hawkins.

Riverside, by Marshall Land & Improvement Company, August 23, 1900; surveyed by W. A. Hawkins.

<sup>7</sup>W. M. Todd wrote a reminiscent article of early days in Marshall for the News-Messenger of August 21, 1903. He told of his arrival and of conditions as he found them in October, 1872, as follows:

"... One sunny morning in October, 1872, I left New Ulm on a construction train destined for 'Redwood Crossing,' as it was then called. The name Marshall had not at that time been heard of. [Mr. Todd was mistaken. The name had been selected some time before, although the village had not yet been platted.] ... Reaching 'Cottonwood Crossing' (Amiret), which was as near as the track was laid, I stayed over night with the Mitchell family. ...

"I left the Mitchell hostelry next morning with John Snyder, who had been to 'the crossing' for a load of lumber to take to Lake Benton. The load was so heavy and the roads so rough that we walked most of the way and reached what was to be known as Marshall about dark. That night I slept in a tent occupied by

the crew of John Watson, which was building the railroad bridge across Redwood river. ...

"Though thirty-one—almost thirty-two—years have elapsed, the impression given by the scene as I emerged from the tent next morning is still vivid. ... In every direction was a seemingly endless expanse of undulating prairie, green with a verdure which a hand of man had never disturbed, utterly houseless and without trees, excepting those which marked the course of the river. ...

"After a simple but substantial breakfast with the bridge crew, I set out 'to see the town.' There were just two buildings: one a little structure occupied by surveyors as headquarters, the other a cheap building occupied by Everett & Company as a supply store for the construction men. Captain Herriek, of Gary, South Dakota, also had a tent on the bank of the river in which he kept a small stock of goods. His goods were called by different names, but they were all poured from the same jug.

"Farther up what I was told was a street a little frame building had just been started. Approaching it, I found a man sitting on a timber smoking a cigar. His face was smooth, his hair was thin but long, and his countenance indicated that his mind was hard at work. I introduced myself, and he informed me that his name was Charles H. Whitney and that the building being erected was to be a hotel. I told him I had cut loose from the efete East and was looking for a location in the West, where I might shake the ague, which had so long been shaking me, and grow up with the country. Whitney saw at once that his reply was expected to be in the nature of advice, and I never knew a man to make a greater effort to rise to the dignity and responsibilities of his task.

"He pointed in every direction to the oceans of

Marshall in 1872 were J. W. Blake, who sold town lots; J. G. Ward, who became the first station agent; Walter Wakeman and W. M. Pierce, who were attorneys; C. H. Richardson, Stanley Addison, Andrew Barrett, Thomas McNeil, L. B. Nichols, Lyman Turner, N. Wilkins and C. Mehan.

The following letter written in Marshall October 26, 1872, and published in the Winona Republican gives an idea of conditions in the little village at that time:

Most everyone has heard of a little railroad station and embryo city just dug up away off somewhere in the West by the name of Marshall, but few know where it is located, except that it is accessible by the Winona & St. Peter railroad. It is situated eighty miles west from New Ulm, forty miles from Redwood Falls, forty-five miles from the Dakota line, twenty-five miles from Lake Benton, and eight miles from Lynd, the last mentioned being the illustrious seat of Lyon county.

Although this little town is in its infancy, I venture the assertion that no one who has never visited it can conceive with any approach to facts the activity and interest with which business is impelled. In the morning a few

untilled land, which he maintained was as fertile as it was fair; he looked a few years into the future and drew a picture of solid townships of No. 1 wheat and herds of sheep and cattle; prophetically he saw about him a thriving city with paved streets, palatial residences and metropolitan stores; he could hear the rumbling of ponderous machinery in the manufacturing plants and see the towering chimneys emitting copious volumes of smoke, which formed black mountains against the sky; he could see glistening church spires and hear the babbling of myriads of children at play about the different school buildings; he could see processions of wagons reaching from the city miles into the country, all loaded with grain and hay and fruit and stock, and he waved his hat majestically as he described the movements of the boats which would carry the products down the Redwood river to the waiting markets of the East. It was a picture no artist could paint.

"I tried to put my imagination in sympathy with his. I tried to see the processions of wagons, but as there was not a house or a hoof between us and the far distant horizon, the wagons refused to appear. I also tried hard to see the big steamers floating down the Redwood, but there was no place in sight where I could not have jumped across the stream, and my imagination would not work right with such contradictory surroundings.

"When Mr. Whitney was in the midst of his eloquent peroration he was interrupted by a tall man riding a pony and carrying a gun. The visitor was introduced to me as Major Blake. The major dismounted and after a cordial greeting asked me where I hailed from, what business I was going to undertake, and if I had selected a lot. While we three were talking another man approached us. He was tall and straight and wore a cape about his shoulders. He had a stately step, wore his hair long, and had a Vermontish countenance. His name was Walter Wakeman. . . .

"I left the place that afternoon for Winona, riding to 'Cottonwood Crossing' with Mr. Underwood, who was head clerk for Bridge-builder Watson. I ordered my lumber and returned as soon as the cars were running and began to do business. The night of my

loads of lumber are hauled to a certain spot and immediately begin the creaking of saws and clanging of hammers, continued until silenced by the darkness of night, when a little shanty, 16x24 feet, or smaller, is so nearly completed as to allow men to lodge therein the same night. A family will arrive in town on the evening train and next morning charter an ox team and lumber wagon, and after loading in the live stock, start out on the prairie to find a piece of government land on which to squat and by night they will find their land and arrange to file upon the same and next morning return with a carpenter to build the house.

There are at present in process of erection here one hardware store, one grocery and dry goods store, one boarding house, one livery stable and a Congregational church. The latter will be only a temporary, two-story building, the upper story of which will be used for religious purposes, and the ground floor will be used for school purposes.

The railroad company is building, all at the same time, a depot, a turn-table, an engine house and warehouse. All these buildings, with the dwelling houses being erected, give employment to a great number of men and cause a great deal of commotion and excitement.

Nearly every nation on the globe is represented here, and when the representatives talk at once in their native tongue they make the most conglomerated gabble you ever heard.

Next comes our hotel, which was begun a little more than three weeks ago. Of course, it is not completed, yet it manages in some mysterious way to lodge the modest number of

return was the night on which the floor of the hotel dining room fell in [October 20]. . . . My first customer was Levi Kiel and my second old man Waterman, the two coming about the same time. I remembered this because I had never seen a foot of lumber measured, and my ignorance was decidedly embarrassing. Mr. Kiel, who wasn't so fresh, showed me how to proceed.

"About this time the permanent population embraced, besides those already mentioned, Charley Richardson, Stanley Addison, Dr. Groesbeck, the Hunters, General Pierce, and perhaps a few others whom I do not now remember. . . . I engaged Walter Dunn, a husky young man from Rochester, to help me in the lumber yard.

"As soon as possible I built a lumber office, and then had the best—perhaps the only good—place to sleep in town. This was the first building completed in Marshall, except the surveyors' headquarters and the supply store before mentioned.

"Cold weather soon came, and with it a snow storm which not only ended all construction work on the railroad but caused a great amount of suffering among the laborers. The latter came stringing into town for a day or two, and some of them were in pitiable condition. How to shelter so many men from the piercing cold was a serious problem. Barrett and McNeil, who had rented the hotel of Mr. Whitney, had an addition to the hotel partially completed. It was rough boarded on the outside, shingled and floored. The up-stairs portion was all in one room, the partitions not having been set off. These laborers to the number of more than a hundred were driven up into this room like so many cattle and laid out on the floor so thick that one could not turn unless all turned. McNeil, who was a big burly Irishman, went up-stairs at intervals during the night and yelled, 'everybody turn over.'

"All that portion of the railroad west of New Ulm was so badly blockaded by the continued storms that there was no hope of opening the road before spring. The prospects seemed so dismal that I went to Winona and I spent the winter with my brother, C. B. Todd. . . . I left Marshall a day or two before Thanksgiving."



# City of Marshall





about seventy persons each night, and the tables are prepared to accommodate each time four hundred. The host and hostess, Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Whitney, say this is sticking them in too thick, but this is the only house of public accommodation in the place and they cannot conscientiously turn them away.

The first marriage in the village occurred in the fall of 1872. The contracting parties were Charles Bellingham and Louisa Durst and the ceremony was performed by C. H. Whitney, justice of the peace, in his hotel.

In January, 1873, the postoffice, which before had been located at C. H. Whitney's house, was moved to the village proper and Walter Wakeman became postmaster, the office being conducted in the drug store of Groesbeck & Wakeman.<sup>8</sup>

During the winter of 1872-73 there was no advancement in Marshall, and a few who had located in the little town the fall before spent the season in their old homes. The new railroad was covered with drifts all winter and regular trains were not operated to Marshall until April 14. With the beginning of spring, however, there were made additions to the little town and its building up was rapid. W. M. Todd, who had wintered elsewhere but who had returned on the first train, has told of the progress that spring: "The activity in the direction of settling, building and improving the village and surrounding country during that spring of 1873 could hardly be described; or if it were described it would seem incredible. The real progress of the place, if

not the existence itself, dates from that spring."

J. P. Watson was one of the first to set up in business. He opened a tin shop and a little later added a stock of hardware.<sup>9</sup> Early in the spring G. E. Nichols opened a saloon.<sup>10</sup> In May H. S. Adams and Mathew Metcalf arrived from Trempealeau, Wisconsin, bringing with them a building in sections. It was set up and the front part occupied as a blacksmith shop by Mr. Metcalf, while the rear part was occupied as a wagon shop by Mr. Adams.

A brick kiln was constructed in the summer of 1873 by C. H. Whitney and 85,000 bricks were burned. In the fall they were used by J. F. Reichert in the construction of a double store building the first brick building in the town. John Ward became the first station agent and M. E. Wilcox the telegraph operator. Walter Wakeman and Dr. S. V. Groesbeck opened a drug store, C. Woodbury became the proprietor of the pioneer hostelry and changed the name to Marshall House, P. L. Van Sant established the Travelers Home, Langdon & Laythe established a lumber yard, J. W. Williams opened a new hardware store, Turner & Loope sold lumber, furniture and machinery, A. O. Underhill opened a confectionery store, Mrs. Burrall a millinery store, Jesse Bagley a meat market, E. Fuller a photograph studio, Daniel Wilcox a blacksmith shop, L. Nichols a livery barn, W. M. Todd formed a partnership with Coleman &

<sup>8</sup>Walter Wakeman served as postmaster until April, 1874. Dr. S. V. Groesbeck then received the commission but served a very short time and was succeeded by C. H. Whitney. The latter served until April, 1876. During his administration, on July 5, 1875, a money order office was established. W. M. Coleman served as Marshall's postmaster from April, 1876, to April, 1878; C. F. Case, to February, 1883; S. D. How, to 1886; M. Sullivan, to August 1, 1890; S. N. Harrington, to August 1, 1894; J. S. Renninger, to October 1, 1898; Frank W. Sickler, to November 9, 1902; Charles E. Patterson, to February 8, 1907; Oscar Krook, from that date to the present. A postal savings bank was established in connection with the office July 15, 1911.

Five rural free delivery routes are now operated from the Marshall office. Numbers one and two were established June 11, 1900, and the first carriers were George Watkins and Isaac Clendenning, respectively. Numbers three and four were established December 1, 1903, with Harry Jefferson and John Nash, respectively, as carriers. Number five was established May 16, 1904, with F. R. Lindsay as carrier.

<sup>9</sup>J. P. Watson engaged in the same business continuously until his death in January, 1909.

<sup>10</sup>The Board of County Commissioners on March 18, 1872, granted Mr. Nichols license to sell liquor in Marshall from April 1, 1873, to March 31, 1874. The license fee for the year was \$50.

Company and continued in the lumber business, the *Prairie Schooner*—the first newspaper—was founded in August by J. C. Ervin.

In the first issue of the pioneer paper, August 23, 1873, appeared the following description of the growing town:

The growth of Marshall has been almost miraculous. Nine months ago the first house was erected. Now there are seventy-nine permanent buildings already constructed, and this number will soon be increased by the erection of others already planned. Upon the same ground where nine months ago the bird and insect tribe held undisputed sway, there has sprung into existence, seemingly from the very earth, a busy, bustling town, where now mingle in happy unison the sounds of the hammer and chisel, the continual rattle of passing vehicles, the shriek of the welcome locomotive, and the hoarse shout of Winona and St. Paul dry goods drummers. Within the year land has increased from \$1.25 per acre to \$25 to \$200 each for residence lots and from \$100 to \$400 each for lots for business purposes, with ready sales.<sup>11</sup>

Marshall now has four general stores, two hardware stores, one drug store, one boot and shoe shop, two millinery and dressmaking establishments, three lumber yards, one meat market, two blacksmith shops, two hotels, three boarding houses, an express office, a telegraph office, a depot and other railroad buildings, one bakery, two confectionery establishments, a furniture store, a flour and feed store, one livery stable, four dealers in agricultural implements, one brick yard, one church building, one doctor, three lawyers, two claim agents and dealers in real estate, one dealer in lime, three wheat buyers, three stone masons and several carpenters and builders.

When Marshall was one year old, the *Prairie Schooner* of October 25, 1873, boasted of progress made:

Our town is one year old this week and we challenge comparison with any other of like age in the West, from the Gulf to British America, and in this we refer not only to the size of the place and its numerous commercial advantages, but more especially to the character of its inhabitants, the business men, the schools, churches, etc. For many years Marshall will necessarily be the market and trading point for an immense extent of country.

The importance of the youthful village

was increased as a result of the election in November, 1873, which gave it the county seat. Several improvements followed, and plans for the future embraced many enterprises that have not matured to this day.

The grasshopper scourge put a damper on progress and from 1874 to 1876, inclusive, the town was almost at a standstill. In April, 1874, the local paper estimated the population of Marshall at 300, but it is doubtful if the town had that many inhabitants. That year the Kendall mill was built, J. W. Blake started a cheese factory, B. A. Grubb opened a harness shop, S. H. Mott bought an interest in the store of Everett & Company, M. M. Marshall built a grain warehouse and engaged in the furniture business, C. A. Edwards established a lumber yard, L. F. Pickard opened a tin shop, Fuller & Company opened a feed store, Dr. Burgoyne located in the village for the practise of his profession,<sup>12</sup> D. F. Weymouth opened a law office, Lockey & Yates, masons, and J. Goodwin & Company, builders, located in the village.

There were also a few additions in 1875. I. P. Farrington opened another general store, Joe Sears a shoe shop, J. A. Hutchins a blacksmith shop, Dr. Newell a dentist's office, Whitney & Webster an insurance office. George Nichols erected a brick building and Marshall, Coleman & Company and C. F. Case a double brick block on Third Street.

Despite the fact that times were about as hard as could be imagined, the local paper almost always gave glowing

<sup>11</sup>When the assessment of 1873 was made the value of real estate on the Marshall townsite was placed at \$14,448. Those assessed for real estate were L. B. Nichols, R. J. Monroe, A. O. Underhill, N. Stewart, William Clemens, Congregational church, George H. Maynard, J. A. Coleman, Johnson, Walter Wakeman, J. Bagley, D. P. Billings, Everett & Company, Daniel Farquhar, J. F. Metcalf, Ezra Ticknor, J. W. Blake, L. B. Jewett, M. Davidson, J. W. Canfield, Joshua

Goodwin, C. W. Andrews, John Callaghan, John Gallagher, S. V. Groesbeck and C. H. Whitney.

<sup>12</sup>Among the physicians who have practised in Marshall have been Drs. Groesbeck, Houston, Burgoyne, Cleveland, Persons, Andrews, Poaps, Armington, Baldwin, Wimer, Renninger, Whitney, Bacon, Kilbride, Hobday, Mallory, Wheat, Hard, Ferro, Powers, Gray, Akester, Ijams, Heath, Gag and Woodworth.

accounts of the town and its progress. The Messenger on October 1, 1875, said:

Although Marshall is only three years old, we can look with pride at the importance it has already assumed on the map of Minnesota. It started out on the unsettled frontier, with no especial natural advantages except an ocean of fertile prairie tributary to it, and has fought its way to recognition through grasshoppers and hard times, all the time a live town and one with a good destiny. The terminus of the Winona & St. Peter railroad, it has been made the central point for western immigration, and through the pluckiness of its business men has built itself into the best town on the western frontier for its size and condition.

Marshall now has a population of only about three or four hundred,<sup>13</sup> but has several substantial buildings that look as if the people here had come to stay. Among the buildings we will mention a \$3000 school house, five two-story brick stores, a Methodist church, a two-story building with hall above belonging to the Congregational church, two hotels, several store buildings of wood, three grain elevators, one grist mill, depot, engine house, etc., together with several fine dwellings of brick and wood. There are three lumber yards. We have a good brick yard.

Marshall became an incorporated village in 1876. The first action toward that end was taken at a mass meeting held at M. M. Marshall's drug store on the evening of Monday, December 27, 1875. Of that meeting J. P. Watson was chairman and C. H. Whitney secretary. It was the sense of those present that sections 4, 5 and 9 should be incorporated as the village of Marshall and J. W. Blake, D. F. Weymouth and R. M. Addison were named a committee to draft an incorporation act.

A bill that met the approval of the citizens was drawn up and introduced

in the Legislature by Senator J. W. Blake in January. A petition favorable to the act and one remonstrating were circulated for signers and forwarded to the state capital. The bill was passed with little opposition and was signed by the governor February 17.

Provision was made in the incorporating act for the beginning of municipal government and C. A. Edwards, J. F. Reichert, C. H. Whitney, C. F. Case, Oren Drake, John Ward and J. A. Coleman were named to call the first election and attend to the preliminaries. The election was held March 10, participated in by fifty-four voters, and a set of village officers was chosen without opposition. The Council met for the first time on Saturday, March 18, 1876.<sup>14</sup>

Village government continued until 1901, and then Marshall was incorporated as a city.<sup>15</sup> The action was taken as the result of a petition, signed by more than two-thirds of the voters, which had been presented to the judge of probate. On February 20, 1901, Judge L. M. Lange issued the requested order. The first election under city government was held April 2, 1901.

Following is a list of the officers chosen at each annual election, under both forms of government, from the time of incorporation to the present:<sup>16</sup>

1876—President, John Ward; trustees, C. A. Edwards, M. E. Wilcox, S. H. Mott; recorder,

<sup>13</sup>The census of 1875 gave Lake Marshall township, including the village of Marshall, a population of only 397. The population of the village was probably not over 250.

<sup>14</sup>An amended charter was put in force in 1881 by legislative action. The changes were not great but were made necessary by defects in the original instrument. The amendments were drawn up by the Marshall Board of Trade and the new charter became operative in March, 1881.

<sup>15</sup>Two previous efforts to this end had been made. On July 30, 1892, at a public meeting attended by only a few citizens, resolutions were passed favoring the change and the Village Council was asked to draft a bill. On April 9, 1897, another mass meeting was held, called at the instance of the village authorities. It was the desire of some to incorporate under the provisions of the law of 1895, but a majority of those present were unfavorable to the change and no action was taken.

<sup>16</sup>During the greater part of the early history of Marshall the license question was an issue. Before incorporation the granting of license in the village was in the hands of the Board of County Commissioners, and prior to the beginning of municipal government saloons were licensed each year. At the Lake Marshall township election of March, 1875, the license question entered into the selection of local officers and license advocates were successful by majorities of six.

Saloons were licensed by the three first Village Councils without the question being submitted to a vote of the people. It was the intention of the anti-saloon advocates to have the question submitted at the election of 1877, but they neglected to give the legal notice. Early in 1878 a petition was presented to the Village Council, asking that no license prevail, and on January 11 of that year the mooted question was submitted to vote without legal authority or binding results. For license received three votes and against license seventy-three votes. The Council was deadlocked, and on April 27, 1878, the matter was again,

W. M. Todd; treasurer, J. P. Watson; justice, Daniel Markham; constable, D. Bell.

1877—President, M. E. Wilcox; trustees, C. A. Edwards, Joshua Goodwin, S. H. Mott; recorder, W. M. Todd; treasurer, C. M. Wilcox; justice, Daniel Markham;<sup>17</sup> constable, D. Bell.

1878—President, J. W. Blake; trustees, C. H. Richardson,<sup>18</sup> O. C. Gregg, G. M. Durst; recorder, W. M. Todd; treasurer, C. M. Wilcox; constable, Edward Berg.

1879—President, J. W. Blake; trustees, J. F. Reichert, R. M. Addison, J. F. Remore; recorder, W. M. Todd; treasurer, C. M. Wilcox; justice, W. M. Todd; constable, R. F. Webster.

1880—President, J. W. Blake; trustees, W. M. Todd, J. F. Remore, R. M. Addison; recorder, V. B. Seward; treasurer, C. M. Wilcox.

1881—President, M. Sullivan; trustees, R. M. Addison, J. F. Remore, W. M. Todd;<sup>19</sup> recorder, V. B. Seward; treasurer, C. M. Wilcox; justice, J. W. Blake; constable, O. A. Drake.

1882—President, E. L. Healy; trustees, A. C. Chittenden, J. P. Watson, M. H. Gibson; recorder, Walter Wakeman; treasurer, F. S. Wetherbee.<sup>20</sup>

1883—President, M. Sullivan; trustees, J. G. Schutz, R. M. Addison, Olof Pehrson; recorder, C. H. Whitney; treasurer, C. M. Wilcox; justice, E. B. Jewett.

1884—President, M. Sullivan; trustees, J. G. Schutz, R. M. Addison, Olof Pehrson; recorder, V. B. Seward; treasurer, C. M. Wilcox.

1885—President, M. Sullivan; trustees, R. M. Addison, Olof Pehrson, J. G. Schutz; recorder, H. A. Wilber;<sup>20</sup> treasurer, C. M. Wilcox; justice, E. T. Mathews.

1886—President, M. Sullivan; trustees, J. G. Schutz, Olof Pehrson, G. E. Johnson; recorder, Louis Larson; treasurer, C. M. Wilcox; justices, C. H. Whitney,<sup>21</sup> D. G. Stewart.

1887—President, J. G. Schutz; trustees, D. Wilcox, S. Butturff, Olof Pehrson; recorder, Louis Larson; treasurer, C. M. Wilcox; justice, D. F. Weymouth.

1888—President, C. B. Tyler; trustees, J. W. Pearson, S. Butturff, Olof Pehrson; recorder, Louis Larson; treasurer, C. M. Wilcox; justice, D. G. Stewart.

1889—President, M. Sullivan; trustees, J. G. Schutz, J. W. Williams, E. S. Frick; recorder,

S. N. Harrington; treasurer, C. M. Wilcox; justice, E. B. Jewett.

1890—President, M. Sullivan; trustees, J. G. Schutz, J. W. Williams, E. S. Frick; recorder, S. N. Harrington; treasurer, C. M. Wilcox; justice, D. G. Stewart.

1891—President, M. Sullivan; trustees, J. G. Schutz, E. S. Frick, J. W. Williams; recorder, F. M. Healy; treasurer, C. M. Wilcox; justice, E. B. Jewett.

1892—President, R. M. Addison; trustees, E. S. Frick, C. F. Case, R. G. Curtis; recorder, F. M. Healy; treasurer, C. M. Wilcox; justice, D. G. Stewart.

1893—President, J. G. Schutz; trustees, C. F. Case, E. S. Frick, H. M. Langeland; recorder, F. M. Healy; treasurer, C. M. Wilcox; justice, D. A. Kennedy.

1894—President, C. F. Case; trustees, C. H. Richardson, H. M. Langeland, E. S. Frick; recorder, E. T. Mathews; treasurer, C. M. Wilcox; justice, D. G. Stewart.

1895—President, C. M. Wilcox; trustees, H. M. Langeland, E. S. Frick, D. D. Forbes; recorder, J. C. Burchard; treasurer, C. E. Patterson; justice, D. A. Kennedy.

1896—President, A. C. Chittenden; trustees, H. M. Langeland, D. D. Forbes, J. N. Barkee; recorder, J. C. Burchard; treasurer, C. E. Patterson; justice, T. P. Baldwin.

1897—President, D. D. Forbes; trustees, H. M. Langeland, W. C. Kayser, Joshua Goodwin; recorder, J. C. Burchard; treasurer, F. W. Sickler; justice, D. A. Kennedy.

1898—President, V. B. Seward; trustees, J. G. Schutz, T. J. Baldwin, J. P. Pierard; recorder, J. C. Burchard; treasurer, C. C. Guernsey; justice, Walter Wakeman.

1899—President, V. B. Seward; trustees, J. G. Schutz, W. C. Kayser, R. C. Beach; recorder, J. C. Burchard; treasurer, C. C. Guernsey; justice, D. A. Kennedy.

1900—President, John E. Burchard; trustees, R. C. Beach, J. P. Pierard, M. W. Harden; recorder, Frank C. Whitney; treasurer, C. C. Guernsey; justice, Walter Wakeman.

1901—President, John E. Burchard; trustees, M. W. Harden, James Lawrence, R. C. Beach; recorder, H. R. Welsford; treasurer, C. C. Guernsey; justice, D. A. Kennedy.

indirectly, submitted to vote. One of the trustees resigned and on the selection of his successor rested the license issue. The candidate favoring license was elected and saloons were at once opened.

In 1879 license carried by a vote of 99 to 89. Thereafter for a number of years the question was not submitted directly, but was left to the village authorities, and campaigns were made by each party for candidates favorable to their cause. At nearly all these elections officers favoring license were chosen. In 1882 the Council granted license for the first six months and refused it during the remainder of the term. A license Council was chosen in 1883 by an average vote of 110 to 87. In 1884, on a direct vote, license won by a vote of 81 to 29.

The question was not submitted again until 1894 and license was granted each year. From 1894 to the time city government was begun the vote on the license question was as follows, in the years not given the question not having been submitted and license having been granted:

1894—For, 187; against, 92.

1896—For, 183; against, 194.

1897—For, 151; against, 152.

1898—For, 261; against, 109.

1901—For, 226; against, 70.

There is no provision in the city charter for voting under the local option law, and saloons have been licensed since the charter was adopted.

<sup>17</sup>At a special election on October 20, 1877, W. M. Todd was elected justice.

<sup>18</sup>Resigned and at a special election held April 27, 1878, J. F. Reichert was chosen as his successor.

<sup>19</sup>Resigned and S. W. Laythe was chosen as his successor at a special election on May 17, 1881.

<sup>20</sup>Died August 2, 1885, and D. B. Woodbury was chosen to complete the term at a special election held August 25.

<sup>21</sup>Resigned in April, 1886, and at a special election May 11 D. F. Weymouth was chosen to complete the term.

<sup>22</sup>Mr. Burchard resigned August 14, 1901, and at a special election M. E. Mathews was chosen to complete the term. Mr. Mathews was succeeded as alderman by J. C. Burchard, elected September 12, 1901.

1901 (city)—Mayor, John E. Burchard;<sup>22</sup> aldermen,<sup>23</sup> M. E. Mathews (two years), John L. Watson (one year), W. F. Bryant (two years), C. H. Richardson (one year); recorder, W. C. Kayser; treasurer, C. C. Guernsey; justices, Walter Wakeman, D. A. Kennedy.

1902—Mayor, V. B. Seward; aldermen, J. H. Schneider, J. P. Pierard; recorder, W. C. Kayser; treasurer, E. S. Frick.

1903—Mayor, M. E. Mathews; aldermen, J. C. Burchard, W. F. Bryant;<sup>24</sup> recorder, J. W. Humphrey; treasurer, E. S. Frick; justice, Walter Wakeman.

1904—Mayor, F. M. Healy; aldermen, H. P. Fulton, Herman Schurz; recorder, John R. Gray; treasurer, R. M. Neill.

1905—Mayor, J. C. Burchard; aldermen, Robert Heilman, Peter White; recorder, John R. Gray; treasurer, R. M. Neill; justices, Walter Wakeman, C. L. Miles.<sup>25</sup>

1906—Mayor, J. C. Burchard; aldermen, R. B. Daniel, Herman Schurz; recorder, John R. Gray; treasurer, R. M. Neill; justice, Harrison Barnes.

1907—Mayor, Spurgeon Odell; aldermen, H. M. Langeland,<sup>26</sup> F. B. Sweet; recorder, John R. Gray;<sup>27</sup> treasurer, R. M. Addison, Jr.; justice, Walter Wakeman.

1908—Mayor, Spurgeon Odell; aldermen, J. G. Schutz, Thomas E. Davis; recorder, C. P. Shepard; treasurer, C. H. Johnson; justice, Fred Adler.

1909—Mayor, Spurgeon Odell; aldermen, August Durrenberger, Peter White; recorder, C. P. Shepard; treasurer, O. K. Kiel; justice, Walter Wakeman.

1910—Mayor, Thomas E. Davis; aldermen, J. G. Schutz, William Mullaney; recorder, C. P. Shepard; treasurer, Harris Persons; justices, J. W. Pike, Boyd Champlain.

1911—Mayor, Thomas E. Davis; aldermen, August Durrenberger, P. P. Jacobson; recorder, C. P. Shepard; treasurer, Harris Persons.<sup>28</sup>

1912—Mayor, Thomas E. Davis; aldermen, J. G. Schutz, W. F. Mullaney; recorder, C. P. Shepard; treasurer, Theodore M. Thomas; justice, J. W. Pike.

For a year after the village was incorporated there was not much progress, due to the fact that the grasshoppers were still in the land. There were, however, a few business enterprises started in 1876, among them a general merchandise store by Olof Pehrson, blacksmith shop by Keyes & Blake, imple-

ment business by P. F. Wise, drug store by Burgoyne & Jewett, shoe shop by B. F. Jellison, feed mill by C. A. Edwards, drug store by M. M. Marshall, meat markets by B. Gibbs and D. Crowley, millinery stores by Mrs. Clemens and Mrs. Underhill, machinery business by S. J. Watkins, grain warehouses by H. B. Gary, C. A. Edwards and Addison & Mott, carpenter shop by I. Burrall.

When it became known that the grasshopper plague was a thing of the past, Marshall took rapid strides forward. Several new enterprises were started in 1877<sup>29</sup> and prospects for the future were bright. The Messenger of November 16, 1877, said: "This town is the busiest hamlet in the West. You can't find a spot where your ears are not filled with the din of building. Houses spring up in a day or two, and our lumber yards can hardly ship in enough to supply the demand. You can expect to be run over next summer if you don't get up and dust."

The predicted boom came in 1878. Before the close of spring ten two-story brick business blocks had been erected, besides several frame business houses and many residences. Among the improvements of the year was the Messenger Block. Two banks were founded, two new brick yards were established, business firms of all kinds came into existence, and a number of professional men located in the village. A directory of business firms published at the close of 1878 listed the following:

<sup>22</sup>Under the city charter the terms of aldermen are for two years, and after this first election one was elected from each ward each year. In the roster the name of the alderman from the first ward appears first.

<sup>24</sup>Mr. Bryant resigned after having served one year, and at the regular election of 1904 Albert Volk was chosen to complete the term.

<sup>25</sup>Resigned in May, 1905.

<sup>26</sup>Resigned May 4, 1908, and August Durrenberger was chosen at a special election May 22.

<sup>27</sup>Was succeeded August 5, 1907, by C. P. Shepard.

<sup>28</sup>Did not qualify and Theodore M. Thomas chosen by the City Council.

<sup>29</sup>Among the enterprises in 1877 were a furniture store by D. McIntyre and James Andrews, meat market by McCormick, gunsmith shop by C. A. Haskell, lumber yard by Horton & Hamilton, general store by E. Puffer, hotel by D. Bell, lumber yard by C. B. Todd and W. H. Lynn and a general store by M. E. Wilcox.

Banks—Owen & Dibble, Lyon County Bank (Strait, How & Tyler).

General Merchandise—Chambers Brothers, Olof Pehrson, Addison & Mott, A. C. Chittenden, W. D. Hillyer, Schutz & Kyle, Bedbury.

Groceries—Robert Waldron, E. L. Healy.

Clothing—S. Keyser.

Hardware—J. P. Watson, J. W. Williams.

Drugs—Aldrich & Houston, C. M. Wilcox, Ole Quam.

Furniture—G. A. Tracy, D. A. McIntyre.

Jewelry—J. Lohmiller, W. H. Wright, W. C. Kayser.

Meat Markets—D. Crawley, L. Lavake, F. S. Wetherbee.

Book Store—J. H. Schneider.

Grain Warehouses—Addison & Mott, H. B. Gary, C. A. Edwards, Williams & Webster, M. M. Marshall.

Feed Mill—J. W. Blake.

Lumber Yards—Langdon & Laythe, Horton & Hamilton (W. M. Todd, agent), Addison & Mott.

Farm Machinery—Addison & Mott, O. H. Hatlestad, Edwards & Tripp.

Shoe Shops—J. P. Pierard, Sear.

Harness Shop—F. Watson.

Feed Stores—A. C. Chittenden, F. S. Wetherbee.

Bakeries—James Barron, Davis.

Hotels—J. Johnson, J. Bagley, Merchants Exchange, Marshall House (Thomas Watson), Prairie House.

Restaurants—James Barron, Montgomery.

Saloons—John J. Laudenslager, Farrington & Company, E. Mahoney.

Billiard Hall—Merchants Exchange.

Livery Stables—L. B. Nichols, McNiven Brothers, Bennett & Hunt.

Brick Yards—C. H. Whitney, W. A. Crooker, J. Lockey.

Blacksmith Shops—Keyes & Ryan, R. Curtis, M. H. Gibson.

Wagon Shops—H. S. Adams, Ellsbury.

Gun Shop—C. A. Haskel.

Paint Shop—Skilling Brothers.

Candy Manufacturer—Wright.

Barber Shop—C. E. Porter.

Millinery—Mrs. Remington, Miss Farnsworth.

Newspaper—Marshall Messenger (C. F. Case).

Lawyers—E. B. Jewett, E. A. Gove, D. F. Weymouth, A. C. Forbes, M. E. Mathews Andrews.

Physicians—Drs. J. W. Houston, J. W. Andrews, C. E. Persons.

Dentist—Dr. E. D. Allison.

Land Office—Winona & St. Peter Railroad Company.

Insurance Office—C. L. Van Fleet.

Marshall increased in size and importance during 1879.<sup>30</sup> In 1880 the value of the building improvements amounted to \$85,000. The federal census that

year gave the village a population of 961. During the next few years there was little increase in population, the census of 1885 showing that there were 986 people living within the corporate limits. But the town made great progress in other ways and developed into one of the best villages of Southwestern Minnesota. A business directory published in C. F. Case's History of Lyon County in 1884 was as follows:

Mercantile—A. C. Chittenden, J. G. Schutz, F. S. Wetherbee, Olof Pehrson, Edwards & Company, general stores; E. L. Healy, Humphrey & Gail, J. W. Williams, groceries and crockery; J. P. Watson, R. M. Addison, hardware and machinery; Youmans Brothers, Horton Lumber Company, lumber yards; Louis Janda, shoe store; C. M. Wilcox, Walter Wakeman, A. B. Sweet, drug stores; S. Butturff, furniture; W. C. Kayser, books, stationery and tobacco; M. Hooker, stationery and tobacco; Mrs. Hillyer, millinery; J. Price, John Russell, Mrs. Hicks, bakery and restaurants; Fred Watson, harness; Woodruff & Wilber, F. Weikle, meat markets; Parsons & Wise, clothing.

Professions—C. E. Persons, J. Armington, A. Poaps, physicians; E. D. Allison, dentist; Forbes & Seward, M. E. Mathews, M. B. Drew, D. F. Weymouth, E. B. Jewett, E. A. Gove, attorneys; Rev. J. B. Fairbank, Rev. J. W. Powell, pastors; G. M. Durst, Miss Mikkelson, Miss Downie, Mrs. G. M. Durst, teachers.

Trades—E. J. Harrison, marble cutter; Arthur M. Nichols, R. B. Vonderamith, B. Vosburg, painters; J. McGandy, photographer; M. H. Gibson, George Heinmiller, C. J. Price, R. Curtis, blacksmiths; S. Marshall, wagon maker; J. B. Murray, O. C. Phillips, barbers.

Miscellaneous—Marshall Messenger by C. F. Case, Lyon County News by C. C. Whitney; Van Dusen & Company (E. Frick, agent), Porter Milling Company (W. A. Hunter, agent), elevators; T. King, grist mill; L. Nichols, livery; W. Keith, W. Simmons, H. Hoyt, hotels; George E. Johnson, stock buyer; B. Wright, feed mill; Peterson & Company, tailors; D. G. Stewart, sewing machines; C. M. Wilcox, express agent; H. M. Burchard, railroad land agent; T. A. Woodruff, railroad agent; Van Winkle, telegraph operator; Charles Kent, collection agency; Strait & Company, creamery; Woodbury & Frick, skating rink.

Marshall kept pace with the development of the surrounding country during the late eighties and had a population of 1203 when the census of 1890 was

<sup>30</sup>Among the business and professional firms established in 1879 were Youmans Brothers & Company (M. Sullivan, agent), lumber yard; J. F. Remore, machinery; Van Dusen & Company, elevator; Todd & Edes, Lyon County News; Laythe & Tripp, machinery;

F. Weikle and J. Lohmiller, meat markets; King & Wakeman, drug store; W. L. Watson, machinery; V. B. Seward and M. B. Drew, attorneys; E. J. Harrison, marble cutter; Laythe & Pehrson, store.

taken. The years 1890-91-92 were exceptionally prosperous ones for the village. The building improvements in 1890 were valued at \$55,000, mostly expended for residences. The next year the value of improvements was placed at \$125,000. That year a system of electric lights was installed by Parsons Brothers, general merchants, at a cost of \$6000.<sup>31</sup>

The village installed waterworks and electric lighting systems in 1894. At a special election to vote on the question of issuing \$25,000 bonds for the purpose, bonds were carried by seventy-three majority out of 308 votes cast. E. T. Sykes secured the contract on a bid of \$24,340. The waterworks were in operation early in December and the lights were turned on December 21, 1894.

There was little advancement during the panic years 1893 and 1894, but in 1895 building improvements to the value of \$50,000 were made. They included brick business blocks put up by T. J. Baldwin, C. F. Case and W. S. Dibble. The census of 1895 showed a population of 1744, a gain of 541 in five years.

Rapid strides forward were made in the late nineties and the village began to take on metropolitan airs. A telephone system was installed in the summer of 1897, with forty-three initial subscribers. During the past decade progress has been marked, although increase in population has not been great. Marshall's population was 2088

in 1900, 2243 in 1905, and 2152 in 1910.

Marshall's history has been remarkably free from destructive fires. On only two occasions has the fire fiend gained the mastery.

The most destructive fire in the town's history occurred on the night of September 24, 1902, bringing a loss of about \$100,000. The three-story brick building owned by T. J. Baldwin and occupied by Baldwin & Loveridge's department store was destroyed. The law office of V. B. Seward and Odd Fellows hall on the second floor were destroyed, as was also Masonic hall on the third floor. A small frame building adjoining, owned by W. S. Dibble and occupied by Blakeslee's meat market, was crushed by the falling walls from the larger building. The fire burned fiercely and for a time threatened to destroy the whole business section of the city.

The second fire of consequence occurred May 15, 1905, and brought a loss of \$40,000. The double store building in Syndicate Block owned by Mrs. E. D. Parsons and the store of P. H. Roise & Company were destroyed, as well as the furnishings of Masonic hall and the dental parlors of Dr. S. E. Whitmore. Losses were also sustained by J. N. Barkee, furniture; Wilson Mercantile Company, V. B. Gits & Company, Dr. A. D. Hard, Thompson's cigar factory, W. A. Hawkins and M. E. Mathews, attorneys.

other stores. Incandescent service was added to the plant early in 1892.

<sup>31</sup>Twenty-three arc lights was the limit of the plant at first. Of these, nine were placed in the streets, eight in Parsons Brothers' store, and the others in



## CHAPTER X.

### MARSHALL'S INSTITUTIONS.

#### THE SCHOOLS.

ONE of the first institutions to be provided after the founding of a town is the public school. In Marshall the school came almost simultaneous with the founding of the village. The first school, supported by subscription, was conducted in the winter of 1872-73. It was held in the little office-building erected by W. M. Todd. G. H. Darling was the teacher-for a time and he was succeeded by Walter Wakeman. Only a few pupils were in attendance and the school was of short duration.

School district No. 8, then embracing the north half of Lake Marshall township and the southern tier of sections of Fairview township, had been created by the Board of County Commissioners January 2, 1872—before Marshall had a place on the map. The district was organized in 1873 and the first public school was taught on the second floor of the building erected by the Congregational church society. That building was used for school purposes until 1875. Miss Diantha Wheeler, who in October, 1875, became the wife of G. M. Durst, was the first teacher and she had in her charge thirty or forty pupils.<sup>1</sup> The first

members of the Board of Education were John Coleman, J. W. Blake and C. H. Whitney.

A four months' winter term was begun November 10, 1873, with Miss Lovelace as teacher. Miss Wheeler again became teacher and was in charge until June, 1874, when she was succeeded by G. M. Durst. At that time the enrollment had reached sixty pupils. Besides those mentioned the other teachers employed during the time the school was conducted under the ordinary district plan were Ada Webster (Mrs. J. W. Williams), Jennie C. French (Mrs. J. W. Andrews), Miss L. A. Bailey (Mrs. W. M. Todd) and Addie Gary (Mrs. C. E. Persons).

In March, 1874, a bill passed the Legislature authorizing the Marshall school district to issue bonds to the amount of \$2500 for the purpose of erecting a school house, and in October of that year the people of Marshall decided to build. In the summer of 1875 a two-story octagonal building, forty feet in diameter, with a seating capacity of 150, was completed. Its cost was about \$2800. Many taxpayers thought it an extravagant expenditure, but within three years it was not large

<sup>1</sup>Among those who attended Marshall's first public school, furnished from memory by Mrs. G. M. Durst and some of the former pupils, were Ada Webster, Fred Webster, Dwight Coleman, Clarence Jewett,

Clara Groesbeck, Zulu Whitney, Susie Hoyt, Alonzo Hoyt, Ora Coleman, Lota Bagley, Jean Turner, Florence Turner, Walter Turner, Mille Whitney, Lucius Bagley, George Bagley, Albert Wilkins.

enough to accommodate the pupils enrolled.

At a school meeting in September, 1878, it was decided, by a vote of 60 to 0, to appropriate \$1300 to build an addition to the school house. A building committee was chosen, composed of O. C. Gregg, C. H. Richardson and J. S. Dewey, and in October the addition was ready for occupancy. Its dimensions were 22x40 feet, two stories high. The school house then contained four rooms with a seating capacity of 250 pupils.

A reorganization, under the independent district plan, was effected October 1, 1878; the school was graded, and four departments were maintained. The first Board of Education under the reorganization was composed of Jona-

than Owens, A. C. Forbes, C. H. Whitney, C. H. Richardson, J. S. Dewey and O. C. Gregg.<sup>2</sup> J. B. Gibbons was the first superintendent of the graded schools and his assistants in 1878 were Addie Gary and Hattie Owen.<sup>3</sup>

The school population increased rapidly and within a few years the facilities were taxed to their utmost. Early in 1886 the voters of the district authorized a bond issue and in the fall of that year a new building was erected at a cost of \$15,000. That structure was used until destroyed by fire twelve years later. A high school course was added, was made a four-year course in 1890, and the Marshall school was raised to the first class in 1896. The first high school class was graduated in 1888.<sup>4</sup>

<sup>2</sup>M. Sullivan furnishes from memory a list of members of the Board of Education who have served since 1878, in addition to those mentioned, as follows: Walter Wakeman, Squire D. How, M. Sullivan, M. C. Humphrey, C. F. Case, George Johnson, Mrs. A. G. Watson, Mrs. A. C. Forbes, C. E. Persons, M. E. Mathews, J. R. Conway, C. C. Whitney, C. B. Tyler, C. E. Patterson, Frank Sickler, C. F. Johnson, M. W. Harden, W. C. Haney and J. C. Sheffield. The members of the Board in 1912 are C. E. Persons, M. Sullivan, W. C. Haney, J. C. Sheffield, Frank Sickler and M. W. Harden.

<sup>3</sup>Superintendents of the Marshall public schools have been as follows: J. B. Gibbons, 1878; C. J. Pickert, 1879; J. C. Hull, 1880; Leslie Gregg, 1881-82; Mr. Emery, 1883-84; W. C. Kilgore, 1885; C. M. Boutelle, 1885-03; M. B. Fobes, 1903-12.

<sup>4</sup>The following have been graduated from the Marshall High School:

1888—Edith Addison, Minnie E. Andrew, Nette Jackson, Grace Watson, Mille Whitney, Harry W. Addison, William D. Frost, S. Sigvaldson.

1889—Edwin M. English, Peter A. Johnson, J. C. Lawrence, Anna L. Weikle, N. Maude Butturff, C. M. Gislason.

1890—Millie Sanders, Edna Fiske, Clyde Butturff, Nellie Drake, Mabel Paige, Joseph Forbes, Margaret Downie, Hugh Dickie, Thomas Cahill, Maude Downie, Arthur Drew, Thomas Salmon, Bert Drake.

1891—(no class).

1892—Mary Davis, Esther Davis, Kate Salmon, Julius Humphrey.

1893—Generius Lee, Frank Case, Robert Neill, Mame Madison, Addie Pierce, Bertha Snyder.

1894—Oscar Worman, John T. Cavanagh, Elijah T. Loomis, Stella M. Snapp, Thomas E. Davis, John Davis, Harry R. Gay, Lillian C. Link, Maude D. Link.

1895—Alice Langan, Harry Buttson.

1896—Gertrude Baldwin, Herbert Newton Dresser, Florence May Elliott, William Kirk English, Haldor B. Gislason, Glenn Roy Link, Ida Belle Marsh, Harvey Gordon Norton, Agnes Elizabeth Neill, Lillian Christine Johnson, Fauntie Grace Warren, Maud D. Link, Stella May Snapp, Laura Belle Maynard.

1897—Corrington Waite Thurston, Arni B. Gislason, Nellie Elvia Cummings, Mabel Agnes Dresser, Ida Belle Hall, Charlie Thomas McLennan, Maude M. McGandy, Royal Charles Millard, John Philip Smith.

1898—George Luther Andrews, Maurice John Breen, Birdie Hortense Champlain, Elizabeth Ida Davis, Myrtle Hope Elliott, Harry Hamilton Galbraith, John Gunnlaug Holm, Robert McMaster Hood, Grace L.

McGandy, Sarah Maude Murray, Edwin Gail Patterson, Ada Richardson, Manie Emabel Tucker, Lurline May Watkins, Eva Maude Watson.

1899—Anna Kimber Boutelle, Simeon James Burchard, Christine Helga Edwards, Nathan Milo Fiske, Fred Green, Frank Egbert Norton, Willis Irving Norton, James Von Williams.

1900—Alice Rosalie Chamberlain, Charles Bayard Gibbons, Carrie Belle Hicks, James Lewis Humphrey, Duncan Leroy Kennedy, Royal Aaron Kidder, Duncan James McLennan, Lottie O'Brien, Florence Amelia Patten, Callie Maude Pehrson, Frank Harvey Throop, Grace Eliza Wasson.

1901—Robert Mott Addison, Louisa Elizabeth Boutelle, Lewis Earnest Dresser, Lucy Rice Fiske, Rose Anna Gray, Frances Slingerland Harrington, Alexander Hood, Mary Ellen Koppel, Frederick William McLennan, Wallace Edwin Mead, Myrtle Dorothy Miller, Nels Christian Nelson, Rollin Hunt Schutz, Rud Charles Wasson.

1902—Octavia Maria Thompson, Roscoe Edward Berg, John Thomas Butson, Frederick Hollister Case, Helga Jonina Davidson, Edith Mae Forbes, Christine Lillia Hognason, Eliza Hood, Helen Julia Hunter, Alice Mabelle Jelleson, Edward Philip Kennedy, Edward John Lawrence, Madge Link, Mildred Link, Ethel May Patterson, Harris Edward Persons, Anna Veda Shepard, Sigrid S. Swanson, Eva Alice Tucker, Hazel Jane Wakeman.

1903—Hazel Payzant Andrews, Mary Lilly Clendenning, Ella Agnes Chittenden, Walter Sessions Fiske, Gertrude Marie Hunter, Mabel Amelia Johnson, Erna May King, Julius Tobias Knudson, Elenora Amanda Kelson, Vera Nell King, Louise Gertrude Langland, Grace Laura Link, George Sloan Langland, Florence Gertrude Parker, Thomas Ambrose Regnier, C. Lloyd Ruliffson, Louise Elizabeth Schutz, Stefania Jona Swanson, Homer D. Sharratt, Leora B. Watkins, Leona D. Watkins.

1904—Phoebe Estella Madden, Paul Nathaniel Casserly, Claud Marion Hoagland, Charles Stuart Kidder, William Jones Galbraith, Stanley Herbert Addison, Willard Orville Persons, Petra Caspara Sole, Joseph S. Peterson, Lela Maude Patterson, M. Eleanor Bumford, Emma Henrietta Heilman, Elsie May Schmitt, Grace Mildred Goodwin, Mabel Harriet McCready, Elizabeth M. Chalmers, Ragna Lucile Johnson.

1905—Barelay Acheson, Lee Alexander, Harold Andrews, Georgina Bellingham, Roscoe Bellingham, Ethlyn Conway, Blanche Davis, Clair Dickinson, Mabelle English, Eva English, Gordon Forbes, Nina Hotham, Edna Hukee, Bessie Hunter, Violet Jelleson, Orion Kiel, Ina Lindsley, Edwin Neill, Claude Palmer,

Again in 1891 the school house was filled to overflowing and the voters authorized a bond issue of \$6000 to provide additional facilities. A four-room ward school house was erected in 1892 south of the Northwestern railroad tracks and was occupied for the first time in September of that year. J. D. Carroll was the contractor. The total cost of the building, heating plant and furnishings was \$8232.35. The building was sold to Dr. F. D. Gray for hospital purposes in October, 1910, for \$3000.

The high school building erected in 1886 was destroyed by fire on the night of December 8, 1898. The loss was placed at \$20,000, covered by insurance to the amount of \$13,000. Immediately steps were taken to rebuild. Plans for a new building, drawn by W. B. Dunnell, were accepted by the Board of Education in January, 1899, and a little later the contract was let to the Angus McLeod Company, of Minneapolis, on a bid of \$39,737, which was later increased, because of changes in plans, to \$41,000. A \$40,000 bond issue was made and the building was completed and occupied in December. The cost of the building, heating, plumbing, ventilating, furnishings, etc., was about \$60,600. It is one

of the largest and finest school buildings in the state.

At the present writing (1912) 539 students are enrolled in the Marshall schools. Including the superintendent, twenty instructors are employed. The school ranks among the best in Minnesota.

Besides the public schools, a Catholic school and a business college are conducted in Marshall.

St. Joseph's convent and academy has been in operation since March 1, 1900, conducted by the sisters of the Order of St. Joseph. It has grown to considerable prominence. In 1899 Mother Seraphine and Mother Celestine came to Marshall and their investigations led to the founding of the school. The Mahoney residence was purchased for a school building, and on March 1, 1900, the school was opened, in charge of Sister Wilfrida, of St. Joseph's Academy, of St. Paul, assisted by Sisters Celesia and DuRosaire. Several additions have been made to the original school house, and a large number of students receive instruction.

#### THE CHURCHES.

Seven church societies have organi-

Vida Pike, Lizzie Smith, Elida Sole, George Struthers, Harry Tate, Maggie Thomson, Lucile Watson, Louisa Wetherbee, Homer Wheeler.

1906—May E. Galbraith, Alice E. Meier, Sidonia A. Mathews, Seraphine B. Ehlers, Mina F. Snyder, Sylvia L. Cummings, S. Augusta Sigvaldson, Lloyd M. Thorburn, Francis Joseph Kennedy, Alice Louise Lindsey, Ernest Persons, Anna Mary Smith, Guy H. Kiel, John E. Silvius, Guy W. Hicks, Iva Elizabeth Aurandt, Velma P. Shannon, Earl E. Jefferson, L. Pauline Fitzsimmons, Inga A. S. Anderson, Wallace Jackson Kidder, Gordon Elwyn Kidder, Agnes Delila Ruane, Alma Dahlberg.

1907—Joseph Anderson, Bertha Bancroft, Guy Blanchard, Gladys Bumford, Naomi Chace, Charles DeReu, Mate Harden, Frank Hoagland, Louise Hollo, Clarence Kennedy, Kittie Kramer, Rolland Mathews, Nellie Moore, Nettie Palmer, Ambrose Ruane, Willard Rulifson, Artys Schroeder, Ada Tibbitts, May Tibbitts, Mabel Vodden, Louise Patterson, Flossie Kramer.

1908—Mary Arloine Bumford, Leila Marie Bush, Charles Louis DeReu, Henry Knox Elder, Joseph William Harrison, Charles E. Healy, Myrtle May Hollo, George Kingdorn Johnson, Josephine Theresa Johnson, Winnie Sigridur Johnson, Eva Nancy Kidder, Bertha Emma McCready, Mary Josephine Martin, Rolland M. Mathews, Ruth Minette Murray, Loline A. Musch, Beulah Pearl Palmer, Helen Mary Penison, Dale Simon, Minnie May Schneider, Ellen Lauretta Welch, Flora Catherine Wetherbee.

1909—E. Rea Austin, Myrtle Barker, Eugenia Agnes Regnier, Lena Amelia Benson, Aroline Mary Forbes, Virginia Marie Johnson, Mae Henrietta Mathis, Wallace Strait Schutz, Larus Sigvaldson, Harry Benjamin Spong, Willis Franklin Gillett, Grayce Clara White.

1910—Edith Lyle Bailey, Grace Winifred Bancroft, Mary Bernice Kennedy, Mary Hortense Ladwig, Mildred Alma McFarland, Henrietta Marion Addison, Nellie Miranda Austin, Oscar Bernard Bladholm, Ruth Etta Fulton, Joseph Penual Mathews, Cassalanzo Middleton, Elmer Joseph Molter, Robert John Myhrvold, Ethel Catherine Porter, Alice Elizabeth Regnier, Lila Ruthe Sturgeon, Lillie Gudny Swanson, Myrtle Viola Thomas, Emma Mary Vergote, James Walter Kennedy, Julia Judith Vergote.

1911—Truman Lewis Bumford, Julia Malvina Johnson, Edna Christine Newman, Blanche Leona Regnier, Ella Sophia Strand, Adolphus Daniel Betournay, James Edward Blake, William Patrick Dolan, Nellie Annette Ledell, George Irving Peffer, Emma Bertha Peterson, Elizabeth Magdalene Poethke, Charles Leon Robinson, Benjamin Adolph Schutz, Edith Agnes Bourke, Lucy Katherine Sharratt.

1912—Lucian Fred Wasson, Raymond Henry Lee, Anna Viola Nash, Mary Christenson, Mae Norah Middleton, Hattie Ellis Spong, Susan Clara Smith, Cecil Frank Brantner, Coxey Strand, Otto Julius Wienke, Seymour Le Grande Elliott.

zations in Marshall and all of them have houses of worship. The churches are, in the order of their organization, Congregationalist, Methodist, Catholic, German Lutheran, Evangelical Association, Episcopal and Presbyterian. Three other societies have at one time and another been represented in Marshall but are not now. They were the Baptist, Icelandic Lutheran and Norwegian Lutheran.

The first religious services held in Marshall were conducted by Rev. W. T. Ellis, Methodist, of Lynd. They were held in the engineers' office in the summer of 1872. The next services were held a short time later by a Congregationalist minister, and the Congregational church was the first organized in the village.

In the summer of 1872 Rev. E. H. Alden, of Waseca, pioneer home missionary of the Congregational church, came to Marshall and made arrangements for organizing a church. At the time the site was occupied by only two buildings and a tent. The tent was the property of Captain Herrick and Major Filkins, and in it they conducted a saloon. It was the only available "building" in town for religious worship, and in it on several occasions Rev. Alden preached to the people of Marshall and vicinity.<sup>5</sup> He later held services in the engineers' building and remained in Marshall during 1872.

The Congregational church was organized by Rev. Alden on October 6,

1872, with the following members: Mr. and Mrs. Seth W. Taylor, Mr. and Mrs. H. P. Gibbs, Mrs. J. W. Elliott and Mrs. Cook. The first board of trustees consisted of Walter Wakeman, Seth W. Taylor and John W. Elliott. The first treasurer was J. P. Watson, who was also the first choirster. Mr. Buchanan was the first Sunday School superintendent and had charge of a union school until the Methodist school was organized in 1873.

Immediately after the organization of the Congregational church, in the fall of 1872, a start was made on a building to be used as a house of worship. It was begun in 1872 but was not completed until the following spring. Rev. Alden and Walter Wakeman constituted the building committee. The structure was a two-story store building erected at the corner of Main and Fourth Streets. The lower floor was occupied by a store, and the upper floor was used for school purposes during week days and by the church society on Sundays. The Congregationalists occupied this building until 1879, when it was sold to H. B. Gary for \$1000.

Rev. George Spaulding became pastor of the church in May, 1873, and served until August, 1874. The first communion service was held in September, 1873. The next pastor was Rev. H. C. Simmons, installed in September, 1875, who was in charge until September, 1879.<sup>6</sup> During the grasshopper days untiring efforts were required to main-

<sup>5</sup>Captain Herrick and Major Filkins had a tent in which they had a saloon. Old Major Filkins tended bar. We didn't have a building. We went to see the major, and he said: 'Yes, certainly, I will close my bar and you can hold services here.' A dry goods box was used for the bar, and I used to take a table cloth or sheet (table cloths were scarce in those days) to cover the dry goods box. Before we came in he always used to turn up the sheet, treat the boys, and then close up. After the services were over he would open again and go on with his business, and I think the Sundays were just as orderly then as they are now. " . . . This tent stood right back about where John Schneider's store is. They were the first church services in Marshall. It was considered work to take

that lumber from the yard of the railroad company and then carry it back again every Sunday, but some way Major Filkins had such a winning way with him that we always got enough boys to do it."—C. H. Whitney.

<sup>6</sup>Pastors of the Congregational church have been E. H. Alden, 1872; George Spaulding, 1873-74; H. C. Simmons, 1875-79; S. J. Rogers, 1879-81; J. B. Fairbank, 1881-84; A. J. Dutton, Albert Warren and N. D. Graves, supplies during 1885-87; A. P. Lyon, 1887-1890; C. M. Harwood, 1891-94; George M. Morrison, 1894; George P. Merrill, W. N. Moore, J. W. Vallentyne, W. A. Bockoven.



German Lutheran



Presbyterian



Catholic

## Marshall's Churches



Methodist



Congregational



tain the organization. The members were few, times were exceedingly hard, and great energy was required to keep the church in existence.

Better times came upon the community and early in August, 1878, the Congregationalists began work on a new church edifice, which was completed the next spring. The building committee was composed of Rev. H. C. Simmons, chairman; J. P. Watson, M. M. Marshall and A. C. Chittenden. The new church, which cost about \$4000, was dedicated free from debt May 18, 1879, by Rev. Dr. McG. Dana, of St. Paul, assisted by Rev. Champlain and Rev. Moses.

The church completed in 1879 served the needs of the society until 1902, when the need was felt for a larger building. About \$6000 were expended in rebuilding, the work being in charge of a building committee composed of M. W. Harden, chairman; James Lawrence, R. R. Bumford, Mrs. W. S. Dibble and Mrs. H. M. Langland. The corner stone was laid October 4, 1902, and the church was formally opened June 28, 1903.

While the Congregational church was the first organized in Marshall, the Methodist, officially organized in 1873, is in reality the oldest church society in the city. Its organization was a continuation of the Methodist church of Lynd, which had come into existence several years before and the jurisdiction of which extended to the village of Marshall. The history of the Methodist church of Marshall dates back to the very earliest settlement of Lyon county; in fact the first settlers came for the

purpose of founding a church and school in the frontier region.

According to the records of the Methodist church, on September 26, 1867,

A. W. Muzzy, his daughter, Sophia, wife of Rev. C. F. Wright, member of the Red River Conference of the Methodist Episcopal church, and L. Langdon and family took possession of Lynd and vicinity in the name of the Lord by establishing religious worship. On the following Sabbath they instituted divine worship and maintained it regularly thereafter [sic] every Sabbath.

In November, 1867, the worshippers were reinforced by the arrival of the family of Luman Ticknor, and the following spring by the family of George Cummins. The Methodists of the little settlement organized a church society in October, 1868, and for the first time had the services of a regular clergyman, in the person of Rev. C. F. Wright. On March 24, 1869, the body was officially recognized by Presiding Elder N. Hobart of the Mankato district. The church was attached to the Redwood circuit and was put under the pastoral care of Rev. Wright, who was in charge until 1870.<sup>7</sup>

The conference of 1870 created a new charge, designated Lynd and Lake Shetek, with Rev. A. R. Riley as pastor. The same year a Sunday School was organized and a log meeting house was built at Lower Lynd. In 1871 the church was moved to Upper Lynd and Rev. A. Eastman became pastor. A frame building was put up, used for a church for a short time, and then moved to Lower Lynd and transformed into a dwelling. Thereafter for a time the Methodists worshipped in the Lynd school house, but in 1872 the Methodist charge was moved to the new village of

<sup>7</sup>Among the early members of the church and the year they became members, according to the church records, were the following: Mary H. Laythe in 1869; O. C. Charlotte, Leslie Gregg, Levi and Emily Kiel, Ellen, Howard, Henry and Zilphia Langdon, Benjamin, Nancy and William Sykes, Luman and Mahala Ticknor in 1870; George and Mary Linderman, D. H., Jane and

Olive A. Ticknor, Henry and Eliza Schaffer, Richard and Charlotte Tupper, Charles S., Sarah A. and Olive Grover in 1872; A. L., Anna and Emaline Baldwin, Lucy Deland, Emma Eastman, Seth and Jennie Johnson, H. B. and Anna A. Loomis and Fanny A. Hoaglin in 1873.

Marshall. That was during the pastorate of Rev. J. H. McKee, with Rev. W. T. Ellis as local preacher.<sup>8</sup>

Services were occasionally held in Marshall in 1872 and early in 1873 by Revs. W. T. Ellis and O. C. Gregg. The church organization was perfected August 17, 1873.<sup>9</sup> Rev. Gregg became the pastor of the Marshall church, and the Lake Shetek and Saratoga appointments were set off. Rev. George Galpin became pastor in 1874, and under his charge substantial progress was made by the society. In the fall of 1874 a parsonage was erected on Fifth Street, opposite the location of the future church. During the summer of 1875 a little chapel was erected on the north end of the present school grounds, on lots donated by the townsite owners. The church, dedicated August 15, 1875, cost about \$800, and in it the Methodists worshipped until 1886. The little building was later moved to another location and remodeled into a residence.

Increases in membership made necessary a larger church building, and in 1885 steps were taken to build. On July 20, 1885, the board of trustees decided to erect a church to cost not more than \$3000, but work was not to commence until \$2500 were raised. Almost that amount was raised before the year ended. A location at the corner of Lyons and Fourth Streets was purchased of E. B. Jewett and on December 18, 1885, plans and specifications were accepted.

The church was erected in 1886, largely through the efforts of B. J.

Heagle, Seth Johnson, M. Sullivan and Dr. E. D. Allison. Its cost was about \$7000. The church was dedicated November 14, the services being conducted by Rev. Robert Forbes, Rev. J. W. Powell and Rev. E. R. Lathrop. Rev. J. A. Cullen was the resident pastor at the time. A new parsonage was erected in 1905 at a cost of \$5200.

A larger building was demanded in 1909 and on May 29 of that year a contract was let to George D. Carroll to remodel the building. A building committee composed of M. E. Drake, Peter Walker, H. B. Loomis, W. G. Hunter, George Caley and Rev. S. A. Cook was appointed and the work was rushed to completion. The cost of reconstructing the building was \$10,200. It was dedicated Sunday, September 19, 1909, by Rev. Dr. F. B. Cowgill, the district superintendent, assisted by Rev. J. W. Powell and Rev. S. A. Cook, the local pastor.

The third church society organized in Marshall was the Baptist. During the summer of 1878 Rev. W. H. Schwartz, of Kenosha, Wisconsin, came to Marshall and in August organized a church with ten members. The officers of the society were J. M. Lockey, deacon; J. P. DeMattos, clerk; C. B. Todd, J. M. Lockey and B. H. Gibbs, trustees. A lot was purchased with a view to erecting a church edifice, but that was not done and the life of the society was short. During the life of the church services were held in the public school building.

The Catholic church—Church of the Most Holy Redeemer—was organized

Cook, 1907-10; J. E. Bowes, 1910-12. Of these, Revs. J. N. Liscomb, F. M. Rule and E. P. Robertson later became presiding elders.

<sup>9</sup>"On the seventeenth of August the Methodists organized a church society at this place, starting out with eighteen members. This is in the circuit of Rev. McKee, but he having all he could attend to elsewhere, Elder Gregg, of Lynd, has usually filled the semi-monthly appointments here."—*Prairie Schooner*, September 20, 1873.

The following have served as pastors of the Methodist church from the time it was recognized by the church authorities to the present: C. F. Wright, 1869-70; A. R. Riley, 1870-71; A. Eastman, 1871-72; J. H. McKee, 1872-73; O. C. Gregg, 1873-74; W. T. Ellis, 1874; George Galpin, 1874-76; J. T. Lewis, 1876-77; H. P. Satchell, 1877-79; J. N. Liscomb, 1879-82; J. W. Powell, 1882-85; J. A. Cullen, 1885-87; F. M. Rule, 1887-88; E. P. Robertson, 1888-91; W. S. Cochrane, 1891-92; George R. Greer, 1892-93; Frank P. Harris, 1893-95; J. A. Sutton, 1895-98; Samuel Ellery, 1898-02; Benjamin C. Gillis, 1902-07; S. Arthur

in 1885. Several years before that time, however, services were occasionally held. The first mass was held by Father Tori in 1879, and that early there was talk of building a church.

There were only a few families of the faith in Marshall in 1884, but that year it was decided to erect a church. The decision was reached at the time of a visit in May, 1884, by Bishop John Ireland and Fathers Cornelius and Devos. J. W. Blake donated two lots east of the river, the business men of Marshall contributed nearly \$1000, and members of the faith contributed liberally. The building was erected at a cost of about \$4000 under the direction of a building committee composed of Father Devos, of Ghent, and Messrs. Janda and Humphrey. The building, though not entirely completed, was occupied for the first time November 30, 1884.

The church was organized in 1885. The following were heads of the families representing the initial membership: John Hanlon, Daniel Minnick, Con Meehan, Richard Blake, P. W. Mullaney, James Smith, Owen Myron, Thomas Welch, Mr. Vergote, Mr. Loke, John Casserley, Pat Casserley, John Ruane, Pat Quigley, Philip Kennedy, John Zeigler and John Lewis. John Hanlon and Daniel Minnick were the first trustees.

Prior to 1890 there was not a resident pastor and services were only occasionally held, conducted by Father Edward Lee.<sup>10</sup> Improvements were made on the church in the spring of 1889 and the interior was completed. The church was incorporated in October, 1890, the articles being signed by Archbishop John Ireland, August Ravoux, J. E. Devos, John Haidon and Louis Janda.

The German Evangelical Lutheran church of Marshall is one of the old religious societies of the city. About 1877 the German Evangelical Lutheran Synod of New Ulm sent Rev. Christ Boettcher as a missionary to Lyon and adjoining counties to minister to the German Lutherans at the expense of the Synod. Thereafter until a church was organized at Marshall in 1888 ministers of the faith, Rev. Boettcher and Rev. W. Shechietal, held services in the county.

The church society was organized in 1888 and Rev. R. Poethke has ever since been the pastor. The initial membership was represented by the families of the following: Theodore Tessmer, C. Mellenthin, G. Schultz, William Marx, Fred Goelcow and R. Murch.

For a number of years the Lutheran society did not have great strength, had no house of worship in Marshall, and had irregular services. In June, 1896, dissatisfaction arose among some of the members, who left the church and organized a new society under the protection of the Ohio Synod of the German Evangelical Lutheran church. The trustees of the new organization were Fred Mellenthin, August Mellenthin and August Schwabe. The organization was brought about through the labors of Rev. W. Ehwald, who preached in and around Marshall from the fall of 1896 until the next spring. During his pastorate the first steps to form the organization were taken, and during the short pastorate of his successor, Rev. H. Drews, it was perfected. Rev. G. R. Wannemacher succeeded as pastor in the fall of 1897.

Lots for a church building were purchased on Lyons Street in April, 1897, and that summer the church was erected.

<sup>10</sup>Pastors of the Marshall church since 1890 have been as follows: Fathers Hugh Victor, 1890-93; Francis Jager, 1893-97; Buckle, 1897-98; Joseph Guillot,

1898-10; William C. Soulard, Innocent Domestici and J. M. Sebillet, 1910-11; E. Damourette (assisted by J. M. Haquin), 1911-12.

It was dedicated on Sunday, July 18, by Rev. Ernst, of St. Paul.

Both branches of the German Lutheran church continued to maintain organizations until the summer of 1908, when a reconciliation was effected. A reorganization was made at that time by thirty families and services by the combined organization were held for the first time in June, 1908, conducted by Rev. R. Poethke.

The Salem Evangelical Association, another German church society, was also organized in 1888.\* Rev. Loeven, of the Dakota Conference, began to preach to members of the faith in Marshall and vicinity, and, although there were only a few families, a class was soon organized. Rev. Loeven was followed in turn by Rev. Preise, Rev. G. A. E. Leppert and Rev. S. B. Goetz during 1888 and 1889, though none of these was a resident pastor.<sup>11</sup> During the first twelve years of the church's history there was no church edifice and during the greater part of that time services were held in the Ehler school house.

The congregation grew and there was a strong desire for a church home. During the pastorate of Rev. H. A. Seder funds for a church edifice were raised. In April, 1899, the society was incorporated under the name of Salem Congregation of the Evangelical Association. Two lots on Main Street opposite the court house were purchased and the work of building was begun in July. It was completed in January, 1900, and was dedicated, free from debt, on June

10 by Bishop S. C. Breyfogel, of Reading, Pennsylvania. The cost of the building was about \$2500.

People of the Episcopal faith in Marshall held services irregularly and had an organization in the early days,<sup>12</sup> being ministered to occasionally by the following pastors from other charges: Edward Livermore, 1874-76; E. G. Hunter, 1876-79; H. J. Gurr, 1879. Thereafter until the society was reorganized in 1889 no pastor was assigned to the Marshall community. During that period several abortive efforts were made to effect an organization and build a church.

Bishop Gilbert, of St. Paul, and Rector Thompson, of St. Peter, held services in one of the other church buildings on July 8, 1888, and there the start toward the organization of a society and the erection of a church was made. To solicit funds and attend to the preliminary work a building committee was appointed as follows: Orrin Paige, chairman; F. E. Parsons, secretary; J. W. Williams, treasurer; R. M. Addison and E. S. Reishus.

St. James Episcopal church was organized by Bishop Gilbert July 21, 1889, but was not made a parish until May 23, 1892. In November, 1889, a place of worship was fitted up in the hall of the Williams Building, a pastor was assigned to the charge,<sup>13</sup> and monthly services were held. Members of the church worked hard to secure the necessary funds and in June, 1890, they had raised \$1000.<sup>14</sup> At that time Bishop Gilbert visited Marshall and at a church

<sup>11</sup>Resident pastors of the Salem church have been as follows: C. W. Wolthausen, 1889-92; W. Blanchard, 1892-93; A. Zabel, 1893-95; F. Draeger, 1895-98; H. A. Seder, 1898-00; C. A. Tesch, 1900-04; G. W. Hielscher, 1904-07; Otto Schultz, 1907-12.

<sup>12</sup>The first members of the Episcopal church included Messrs. and Mesdames S. H. Mott, D. F. Markham, J. W. Blake, S. Webster, R. M. Addison, Mrs. J. W. Williams and others.

<sup>13</sup>Pastors of the St. James Episcopal church since the reorganization in 1889 have been as follows: J. B.

Halsey, 1889-91; G. H. TenBroeck, 1891-94; T. G. McGonigle, 1894-95; T. H. J. Walton, 1896-98; no pastor 1898-00; W. P. N. J. Wharton, 1900-01; Archdeacon Houtt, George E. Schulze and C. B. Beaubien, 1901-02; Frank Erwin Brandt, 1902-03; Richard S. Read, 1905-06; John Vinton Plunkett, 1906-07; William A. Dennis, 1910-12.

<sup>14</sup>The ladies of the Episcopal society are entitled to much credit for the heroic efforts made to establish a church in Marshall. They are now working to secure the wherewith to erect a church building and have

meeting it was decided to proceed with the building of a church.

Three lots at the corner of Main and Fifth Streets were donated by Messrs. Stewart, Jenkins and Blake and the building was commenced in September, 1890. The corner stone was laid October 7 and then work was stopped because of lack of funds. It was put under way again in the spring of 1892, and in time a fine stone building, costing about \$7000, was completed. It was dedicated by Rev. W. P. TenBroeck in October, 1893.

For many years the Icelandic Lutherans maintained a church organization in Marshall. For a time services were held in private residences, but in the summer of 1890 the members undertook the erection of a church edifice. Subscriptions were solicited and in the fall of that year a church was erected west of the Great Northern railroad tracks at a cost of about \$1500. The next year a stone foundation was put under the building and the corner stone was laid with ceremonies by Rev. Thalaksso on November 15, 1891.

In the cyclone of August 8, 1892, the Icelandic church building was demolished and the same fall a new building took its place on the old foundation. Services were held many years, but finally the attendance dwindled and the organization went out of existence. For some time before the pulpit had been filled by the pastor of the Minneota church. The building was purchased in March, 1911, by T. R. Cummings and remodeled into a residence.

already raised funds sufficient to insure one in the near future. They wish to build this season if possible."—Reporter, July 2, 1890.

<sup>15</sup>The first members of the Presbyterian church were James McNiven, Joseph Forbes, Thomas E. Davis, John J. Davis, Mary A. Davis, Esther Davis, Reese Davis, Mrs. Jane Davis, Mrs. F. E. Nichols, Miss Maggie McNiven, Miss Julia McNiven, Malcolm C. McNiven, Mrs. Malcolm C. McNiven, Mrs. Campbell, Miss Kittie Campbell, Mrs. C. G. Miller, Blanche Meade, William Neill, Mrs. William Neill, Emma

The First Presbyterian Church of Marshall was organized June 28, 1891, under the direction of Rev. R. N. Adams, the synodical superintendent of home missions, with thirty-one members.<sup>15</sup> Malcolm C. McNiven and Reese Davis were the first elders and the following were the first officers: Mary A. Davis, clerk; J. P. Watson, treasurer; A. R. Chace, D. D. Forbes and James McNiven, trustees. Until the church was erected services were held in Chittenden's Hall. Rev. Clarence G. Miller was the first pastor.<sup>16</sup>

Steps were at once taken to erect a house of worship. Two lots were purchased on Lyons Street, opposite the school house, and in the fall of 1891 a building, 24x28 feet, now used as the lecture room, was completed. Its cost, including furnishings, was about \$2000. The dedication services were conducted February 14, 1892, by Rev. John Barbour, of Mankato. The Presbyterian church as it stands today was constructed in 1900 and the first services were held therein May 27. It was dedicated June 24.

For a short time the Norwegian Lutherans had an organization in Marshall, the church having been organized about 1899. Services were held in the German Lutheran church by Rev. Kleven, of Minneota. The society was not very strong and soon ceased to exist.

#### THE LODGES.

Marshall is well represented by secret and fraternal orders. There are in

Graves, Rev. W. D. Graves, J. P. Watson, Mrs. J. P. Watson, Mrs. Cordelia H. Graves, Mrs. Elizabeth A. Forbes, A. R. Chace, Mrs. Alice P. Chace, Miss Grace L. Watson, Miss Kittie M. Watson, Miss Flossie J. Watson and Miss E. Maude Watson.

<sup>16</sup>Pastors of the Presbyterian church have been as follows: Clarence G. Miller, 1891-94; Harvey M. Pressly, 1894-97; Frank L. Fraser, 1898-00; R. L. Barackman, 1900-02; T. D. Acheson, 1903-05; C. McKibbin, 1905-12.

existence the following societies, most of which have also auxiliary organizations: Masonic, Grand Army, Workmen, Modern Woodmen, Royal Arcanum, Maccabees, Foresters, Modern Brotherhood and Yeomen. Several other well known societies have in times past had organizations in the city, among them the Odd Fellows, Knights of Pythias and Legion of Honor.

The oldest order in Marshall is Delta Lodge No. 119, A. F. & A. M., which was organized under dispensation November 16, 1874. The organizer was Thomas Montgomery, of St. Peter, and he was assisted by A. Mardin and Dr. Berry, of New Ulm. The first officers were as follows: H. J. Tripp, W. M.;<sup>17</sup> Joshua Goodwin, S. W.; S. V. Groesbeck, J. W.; G. M. Durst, secretary; M. E. Wilcox, treasurer; George E. Nichols, S. D.; B. A. Grubb, J. D.; L. F. Pickard, tyler.

Lona Chapter No. 21, Order Eastern Star, was named in honor of Mrs. Lona Todd, who had died a short time before the lodge was organized. It came into existence March 4, 1891, with thirty charter members.<sup>18</sup> It was instituted by Charles L. Davis, of Red Wing, grand patron of the Eastern Star.

A dispensation for Marshall Chapter No. 65, Royal Arch Masons, was granted in April, 1898. The lodge started with nearly forty members and the following first officers: John E. Burchard, high priest; Clarence M. Boutelle, king; M. E.

Mathews, scribe. The chapter was constituted November 29, 1898.

A commandery of Knights Templar was put under dispensation July 5, 1901, with John E. Burchard, John S. Renninger and Clarence M. Boutelle as principal officers. Marshall Commandery No. 28 was instituted November 8, 1901, by Eminent Commander Joseph Bobleter.<sup>19</sup>

Marshall's second fraternal order was Good Samaritan Lodge No. 73, Independent Order Odd Fellows. A preliminary meeting of Odd Fellows was held October 3, 1879, and steps were then taken to organize. The lodge was instituted December 18 of that year with the following named six charter members: J. E. Maas, A. T. Gamble, C. H. Richardson, J. H. Williams, S. O. Weston and C. W. Andrews. The lodge had an existence of twenty-nine years and surrendered its charter December 22, 1908.

A Rebekah lodge, auxiliary to the Odd Fellows, was maintained for a number of years. As the result of a surprise party given members of Good Samaritan Lodge by wives of the members early in 1895, application was made for a charter for the auxiliary. Surprise Lodge No. 113, Rebekahs, was organized March 5, 1895.<sup>20</sup>

One of the most highly respected orders in Marshall is D. F. Markham Post No. 7, Grand Army of the Republic, which has existed since 1881. So early

Adams, William A. Hawkins, H. B. Gary, Dexter Stewart, M. Sullivan, O. E. Maxson, M. E. Mathews, L. M. Lange, H. M. Burchard, S. N. Harrington and C. F. Johnson.

<sup>17</sup>Past masters of the Masonic lodge have been as follows: H. J. Tripp, 1874-76; G. M. Durst, 1877-79-84; Joshua Goodwin, 1878; George E. Johnson, 1885-86; A. C. Forbes, 1887; E. L. Healy, 1888-90-93; M. E. Mathews, 1891-92; J. B. Gibbons, 1894-95; O. E. Maxson, 1896-97; D. M. King, 1898; F. C. Whitney, 1899; H. M. Fredenburg, 1900-01; W. A. Hawkins, 1902; J. W. Humphrey, 1903; J. C. Burchard, 1904-05; S. E. Whitmore, 1906; C. W. Hicks, 1907; H. D. Caley, 1908; J. C. Burchard, 1909; O. F. Woodard, 1910; William Neill, 1911; J. Von Williams, 1912.

<sup>18</sup>The charter members of Lona Chapter were Mesdames Nancy E. Gary, Nellie E. Brenner, Eliza Burchard, Minnie E. Mathews, Etta Harrington, Alice Johnson, Winnie Dale, Anna Sanger, Kittie Maxson, Ada Williams, Dexter Stewart, M. Sullivan, Sarah Wilcox, Ida Adams, Agnes Neill, Mary Fiske, Misses Allie Stewart, Florence Turner, Messrs. Seymour

<sup>19</sup>The first officers of Marshall Commandery were John E. Burchard, John S. Renninger, Clarence M. Boutelle, Rev. S. Ellery, James C. Burchard, H. M. Fredenburg, E. S. Frick, A. J. Chamberlain, M. W. Harden, A. A. Christensen, Thomas McKinley, H. B. Gary, W. A. Hawkins, Fred S. Cook and E. Ziesmer.

<sup>20</sup>Charter members of Surprise Lodge were Lillie G. Baird, Rosa Sanger, Fannie A. Richardson, May M. Mallory, Alma J. Hunter, Sarah Bryant, Alice G. Wheeler, Ella M. Cowhan, Nellie Gee, Margaret Mather, George H. Porter, William G. Hunter, W. F. Bryant, J. W. Pearson, C. H. Richardson and W. F. Cowhan.

as 1875 an attempt was made by the soldiers of the Civil War to form a post of the G. A. R. or an independent organization, but it resulted in failure.

In the spring of 1881 the matter was again agitated, and this time the venture resulted in success.<sup>21</sup> A petition for organization was signed by thirty-eight soldiers<sup>22</sup> and forwarded to headquarters at Stillwater. The post was mustered in July 20, 1881, by Department Commander Adam Marty, with eleven charter members, as follows: J. W. Blake, who became the first post commander;<sup>23</sup> J. M. Vaughn, W. T. Maxson, C. C. Whitney, John Dewey, S. Webster, G. W. Mossman, John Laudenslager, C. E. Porter, A. D. Morgan and B. Vosberg. Thirty-four comrades were mustered in during the next few months and on the first of the year 1882 the membership was forty-five.

Camp Phil Kearney No. 21, Sons of Veterans, had an organization for a number of years, but was finally disbanded. It was mustered in April 23,

1886, by Adjutant L. E. Hale, of Minneapolis, with about twenty charter members.<sup>24</sup>

D. F. Markham Corps No. 67, Women's Relief Corps, was organized March 15, 1890, and instituted by Mrs. Sarah S. Evans. The order began with a membership of nineteen.<sup>25</sup>

Marshall Lodge No. 125, Ancient Order United Workmen, was instituted August 21, 1890, by Grand Master Workman C. H. Botkin with ten charter members.<sup>26</sup> The lodge was formally organized September 4.

The Workmen auxiliary, Mizpah Lodge No. 53, Degree of Honor, was instituted January 23, 1896, with a membership of twenty-eight.<sup>27</sup>

One of the Marshall lodges that flourished for a number of years but which has surrendered its charter was Marshall Lodge No. 89, Knights of Pythias. It was instituted July 23, 1891, by Grand Chancellor L. P. Hunt, of Mankato, with twenty-eight charter members.<sup>28</sup> Marshall Division No. 9,

<sup>21</sup>D. F. Markham Post was organized in the summer of 1881, its inception being stimulated by the unsuccessful attempt to observe Memorial Day, on May 30. The day was Monday, but arrangements had been made by a few of the old soldiers to hold services on Sunday, and a good program had been arranged for Chittenden's Hall and also at the cemetery over the grave of Daniel F. Markham, who at that time was the only soldier buried there. A severe storm began Saturday and continued three days, making it necessary to abandon the proposed services. . . . Soon after half a dozen old soldiers held an informal meeting and determined to organize a Grand Army post in Marshall, and Comrade J. M. Vaughn was delegated to circulate a petition among the old soldiers for such an organization, in which he succeeded during the month of June. During this time there was only a provisional Grand Army Department in Minnesota and only one post remained of the number that had previously existed. This was at Stillwater, and, with only one post existing, the provisional department commander was Adam Marty of that city."—News-Messenger, December 11, 1903.

<sup>22</sup>The signers were D. Lee Mason, S. V. Groesbeck, A. J. Ham, John Laudenslager, A. Kingsley, G. E. Nichols, A. A. Hunter, J. M. Vaughn, G. R. Walch, G. W. Mossman, H. A. Crittenden, J. N. Liscomb, Walter Wakeman, R. M. Addison, J. W. Blake, A. D. Morgan, C. H. Richardson, W. S. Reynolds, Joshua Goodwin, C. C. Whitney, C. A. Edwards, C. E. Porter, R. F. Webster, M. Atherton, C. F. Case, A. A. Farmer, F. Wescott, S. Webster, O. A. Drake, C. L. Thompson, J. A. Hunter, R. J. Madison, A. G. Randall, John Dewey, C. B. Todd, B. Vosberg, W. T. Maxson and A. O. Underhill.

<sup>23</sup>Early commanders of D. F. Markham Post were as follows: J. W. Blake, 1881; S. Webster, 1882; C. C. Whitney, 1883; S. Webster, 1884; R. M. Addison,

1885; T. P. Baldwin, 1886; O. Warren, 1887; C. A. Cook, 1888; C. H. Richardson, 1889; A. R. Chace, 1890; R. M. Addison, 1891.

<sup>24</sup>The first officers of Phil Kearney Camp were Seymour Adams, Louis Larson, Thomas J. Baldwin, Frank C. Whitney, F. A. Howard, Charles H. Austin, Fred H. Webster, C. L. Addison, Harry W. Addison, R. D. Baldwin, C. P. Goodwin, R. B. Vondersmith and W. M. Trowbridge.

<sup>25</sup>The charter members of D. F. Markham Corps were Mesdames William T. Maxson, A. R. Chace, O. E. Gail, I. N. Harvey, O. Warren, John Laudenslager, Ellen Howard, O. McQuestion, Thomas McElwee, L. M. Lange, S. Harrington, N. W. Mallory, B. F. Webster, C. Richardson, H. S. Adams, George Little, A. Cruikshank, George Watkins and R. J. Madison.

<sup>26</sup>The charter members of Marshall Lodge were L. M. Lange, George B. Hughes, Clarence B. Guernsey, Warren S. Eastman, Charles H. Johnson, Joseph McGandy, Frank D. Wasson, Alfred E. Heller, John J. Kelly and David A. Aurandt.

<sup>27</sup>The first officers of Mizpah Lodge were Mesdames D. McErlain, W. B. Thorburn, T. R. Cummings, Joseph McGandy, J. M. Millard, Thorsen, H. M. Dwyer, Joseph Besonson, Violet Brown, N. D. Wasson, L. M. Lange and J. F. Hoagland.

<sup>28</sup>The charter members of the Knights of Pythias lodge were J. S. Renninger, C. M. Wilcox, V. B. Seward, B. H. Wheeler, A. R. Chace, W. C. Kayser, D. D. Forbes, H. W. Addison, F. H. Webster, A. E. Helber, A. C. Guernsey, F. E. Parsons, A. A. VanWinkle, W. M. Fay, Charles Flemming, Frank Sargent, Charles P. Goodwin, C. E. Patterson, E. S. Frick, B. L. Gates, C. H. Johnson, J. A. McNiven, C. F. Johnson, J. B. Gibbons, F. C. Whitney, J. J. Kelly, Archie McFadyen and A. P. Baker.

Uniform Rank. Knights of Pythias, was instituted January 17, 1896, with twenty-nine charter members.

Marshall Camp No. 1548, Modern Woodmen of America, was organized on the evening of August 3, 1891, under the direction of Deputy Head Consul H. W. Noble. It began with a small membership,<sup>29</sup> but it developed into a popular order and has had a flourishing existence of twenty-one years.

Artesian Council No. 1606, Royal Arcanum, began life March 20, 1895. It was instituted by H. W. Mead, deputy grand regent of the state, assisted by Secretary G. A. Ives, of Minneapolis.<sup>30</sup>

Marshall Council No. 108, Legion of Honor, was instituted March 24, 1897, with twenty-one charter members, and had a short existence.<sup>31</sup>

Marshall Tent No. 75, Knights of the Maccabees, was organized April 25, 1898, with nineteen charter members.

Columbus Court No. 835, Catholic Order of Foresters, was organized in April, 1899, with twenty-five charter members.<sup>32</sup>

Isabella Court No. 430, Women's Catholic Order of Foresters, was organized in December, 1899. The organizer was Mrs. Mary Martin and the court was installed by Mrs. Annie Cummings.<sup>33</sup>

Eureka Lodge No. 532, Modern Brotherhood of America, was organized May 15, 1899, with forty-eight charter members.<sup>34</sup>

Marshall Homestead No. 639, Brother-

hood American Yeomen, was organized early in 1903.

#### THE LIBRARY.

Thirty-two years ago the foundation for Marshall's public library was laid. On February 11, 1880, the Village Council authorized the establishment of a public library and made a tax levy of one mill on the dollar—all that the law then permitted—for its support. The president of the Council at the same time named the following persons a Board of Directors with authority to establish the library: C. J. Pickert, S. D. How, C. F. Case, A. C. Forbes, Miss Cynthia Weymouth, Mrs. J. P. Watson, Mrs. R. M. Addison and Mrs. J. W. Blake.

A one-mill tax was levied the next year and funds were raised by dramatic entertainments, so that the Library Board had \$420.16 in its treasury. The Board failed to agree on a plan, the money was put at interest, and for several years after the initial step was taken a library did not materialize.

The matter was again taken up late in 1885, when it was found the library fund amounted to about \$470. The Village Council then decided to purchase books and found the institution. Vacancies on the Library Board were filled, and Messrs. Case, Tibbals, Durst and Tyler were named a committee to purchase books. Walter Wakeman was made librarian and the books were kept

<sup>29</sup>Charter members of the Woodmen lodge were C. F. Johnson, S. N. Harrington, George McConnell, J. S. Renninger, C. M. Wilcox, F. M. Healy, M. E. Mathews and C. C. Guernsey.

<sup>30</sup>Charter members of Artesian Council were D. M. King, G. Arvesen, C. H. Johnson, S. N. Harrington, W. G. Little, R. A. Chittenden, J. C. Burchard, F. J. Parker, O. A. Krook, H. M. Grey, George H. Porter, R. Zeisner, E. S. Frick, J. A. McNiven, J. S. Renninger, Frank Hose, Robert A. Glashan, N. C. Titus, C. E. Meader and George A. Tallon.

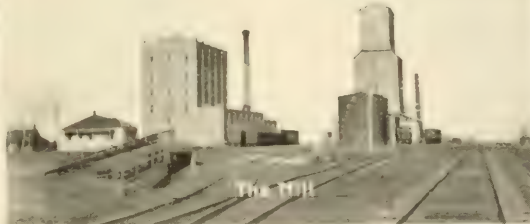
<sup>31</sup>The first officers of the Legion of Honor lodge were Charles P. Goodwin, George V. Hicks, Bert Blakeslee, Mrs. Fannie W. Case, Mrs. C. C. Rutherford, A. R. Klinge, Mrs. May Mallory, Mrs. Bertha Dressel, Miss Gertrude Geering, J. N. Mallory, C. F. Case, Florence Hicks and S. Paulson.

<sup>32</sup>The first officers of the Foresters lodge were Thomas Welch, John Nash, William Kinney, J. D. Martin, G. Vergote, Chris Rock, Arthur Brais, Arthur Gits, Fred Dandurand, George Dandurand, Paul Gits, Rev. Father Guillot and George Hickey.

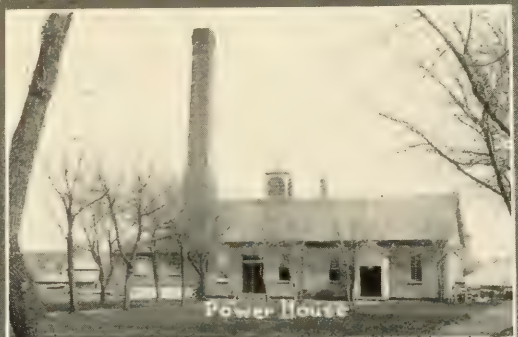
<sup>33</sup>The first officers of Isabella Court were Mrs. Emma McLain, Mrs. Mary Martin, Mrs. Eppinsperger, Miss Annie Mulligan, Bessie Kennedy, Miss Adrien Perre, Mrs. Lague, Miss Mongeau, Mrs. Georgia Dandurand, Miss B. Paradis, Mrs. Susan Gaffney, Mrs. Jennie Dandurand and Miss Arnoldine Princen.

<sup>34</sup>The first officers of Eureka Lodge were Horace Hoffman, Joseph Besonson, C. C. Guernsey, T. G. Bonnallie, A. C. Hinckley, H. D. Caley, John Montgomery, William Gruel, W. B. Thorburn, J. M. Meehl, John Dick, Dr. T. H. Wimer and Dr. W. A. Hobday.

# Marshall's Institutions



Soldiers' Monument





at his store. The library was opened January 1, 1886, with five hundred volumes on hand. It continued until replaced by the Carnegie library in 1903, supported by tax levies. Reading rooms were established, and, considering its limited resources, became quite popular.

In February, 1902, the Art History Club became interested in the establishment of a Carnegie library and wrote the philanthropist. A year later Mr. Carnegie offered to donate \$10,000, providing the village would furnish a site and bind itself to expend \$1000 annually on maintenance. The offer was accepted at a public meeting held March 4, 1903. The site at the corner of Lyons and Third Streets was purchased for \$2500, and in July, 1903, the contract for the erection of the building was let to H. P. Fulton on a bid of \$9400. It was constructed under the supervision of a building committee composed of M. Sullivan, M. W. Harden and W. S. Dibble. The Marshall library is one of the best institutions of the kind in Southwestern Minnesota.

#### THE FIRE DEPARTMENT.

The Marshall Fire Department has developed from small beginnings. Prior to 1879 the village was without fire protection, except that afforded by water in several wells and the willingness of the citizens to apply it. The first action by the village authorities to provide means of protection came in February, 1879, when a box was erected near the town pump and filled with buckets. A meeting to organize a volunteer fire department at that time was held, but small interest was taken and no company was formed.

Three hundred fifty feet of hose was purchased in December, 1879, to be attached to the town pump in case of

fire. This purchase led to the formation of the first fire company. A public meeting was held at the Merchants Exchange on the evening of December 26, when sentiment was found to be unanimous in favor of forming a fire company. M. E. Wilcox, J. G. Schutz and C. H. Richardson were named a committee to confer with the village authorities.

At a meeting of the Village Council December 29 provision was made for organizing a company of five men, who should have charge of the apparatus and be in command at fires. Such a company was formed with J. G. Schutz as chief and C. H. Richardson, S. Webster, Stanley Addison and E. L. Healy as the other members. A hook and ladder truck and buckets were a little later added to the equipment.

The pioneer fire fighting company was handicapped by lack of equipment and was not long maintained. The News of January 16, 1885, said: "The only semblance of fire apparatus is a light truck, carrying a few ladders and hooks. Something efficient is demanded." In February, 1888, a number of Diamond hand grenades were purchased and placed in accessible positions about the village. Marshall's fire fighting apparatus was indeed primitive until a progressive step was taken in 1890 and an efficient force organized.

The organization of Marshall's Fire Department came as a result of a conflagration that brought a loss of \$7000. At a meeting of the Village Council January 10, 1890, it was decided to erect an engine house and purchase a fire engine, hose and other necessary apparatus to protect property. J. G. Schutz and J. W. Williams were chosen by the village authorities to carry out the plans.

The engine house, used also as a city hall, was erected in the summer of 1890, the steam engine was put in service in July, and a reservoir was excavated on the village lots to furnish water. The fire department was organized July 14, 1890, with twenty-five members.<sup>35</sup>

When the waterworks system was installed in 1895, the steam engine was discarded and modern fire fighting apparatus was procured. A reorganization of the department was effected in the summer of 1895,<sup>36</sup> and the same organization has been maintained ever since. New material was added in 1899, and additions have frequently been made since that time.

Late in 1911 the fire house and city hall was rebuilt and enlarged and the department has one of the finest homes maintained by a volunteer department in Minnesota. The personnel of the department is also excellent, and the fact that Marshall has sustained few losses by fire is due largely to the work of the fire fighters.

#### THE BANKS.

Marshall has three banking institutions, two chartered by the national government and one conducted under the state banking laws. They are the Lyon County National Bank, the First National Bank, and the Marshall State Bank. All are ably conducted institutions, enjoy the confidence of the public, and are in flourishing condition.

The first bank established in Marshall is defunct. It was the Bank of Marshall (later a state bank), which opened

its doors late in April, 1878. It was founded as a private institution by W. S. Dibble, who was the manager, and Jonathan Owen. It was conducted under the firm name of Owen & Dibble until the spring of 1883, when Mr. Dibble became sole owner. Until 1890 the bank was housed in a frame building and then was moved into a brick block erected by the owner.

The bank was a popular institution and a flourishing business was built up by Mr. Dibble. It became a state bank, with a capital stock of \$25,000, in the spring of 1891. The bank was discontinued April 11, 1900, Mr. Dibble at that time disposing of the business to the First National Bank.

The second bank founded in Marshall and the oldest now in existence was the Lyon County Bank—later reorganized as the Lyon County National Bank. It was founded as a private institution, with a paid-up capital of \$25,000, and began business late in August, 1878. The officers and owners at the time of founding were H. B. Strait (who was at the time a member of Congress), president; C. B. Tyler, vice president; S. D. How, cashier; and D. L. How. Business was begun in the building still occupied, the Messenger Block having been erected by the bank people at that time. In S. D. How was vested the management of the bank and that gentleman conducted it for more than fourteen years.

The Lyon County Bank was reorganized as the Lyon County National Bank, capital stock, \$50,000, on August 1, 1891. The officers and directors chosen

<sup>35</sup>The first officers and members of the department were as follows: F. M. Healy, chief; Harry Addison, chief engineer; George Hughes, foreman; William Thorburn, assistant foreman; E. L. Healy, president; Joseph Pierard, vice president; Thomas J. Baldwin, secretary; Charles H. Johnson, treasurer; James Andrew, Ray Baldwin, Frank Cutting, Charles Laudenslager, Fred Webster, Oscar Krook, William Simmons, Len Barnes, George Upton, George Taylor, Jay Truax, Charles Goodwin, Eugene Goodwin, Z. Smith, Guy Remore, Cliff Golder and John Sturgeon.

<sup>36</sup>The officers of the department at the time of reorganization were as follows: Fred M. Healy, chief; John Schneider, assistant chief; W. B. Thorburn, foreman; J. E. Murray, assistant foreman; W. H. Simmons, foreman hose company No. 1; A. J. Whitaker, foreman hose company No. 2; Charles Kelson, secretary; John Watson, treasurer; T. J. Baldwin, Charles H. Johnson and J. B. Murray, trustees.

at that time were as follows: H. B. Strait, president; M. Sullivan, vice president; S. D. How, cashier; F. W. Sickler, assistant cashier; H. B. Strait, M. Sullivan, S. D. How, C. B. Tyler, A. C. Chittenden, James Lawrence and J. G. Schutz, directors. In addition to these D. D. Forbes and Joseph Ciesielski were stockholders.

There have been only a few changes in the management of the Lyon County National Bank. Cashier S. D. How resigned October 3, 1892, and was succeeded by F. W. Sickler, who has served ever since, with the exception of a short time when J. G. Schutz was cashier. President Strait died February 25, 1894, and was succeeded by C. B. Tyler, the present incumbent. James Lawrence is the present vice president. During its long life the Lyon County National Bank has been in able hands and is one of the sound financial institutions of the county.

The First National Bank of Marshall was authorized to begin business August 16, 1891, and on September 8 opened its doors in the building it still occupies and owns. Its capital stock was \$50,000 and the owners of the stock were H. M. Langland, G. W. Pitts, M. W. Harden, R. M. Addison, C. F. Johnson, Olof Pehrson, F. E. Parsons and Andrew Nelson. The first officers and directors were as follows: H. M. Langland, president; R. M. Addison, vice president; M. W. Harden, cashier; C. C. Guernsey, assistant cashier; R. M. Addison, Olof Pehrson, F. E. Parsons, C. F. Johnson and H. M. Langland, directors.

During the first twenty years of the institution's history the only change in management occurred in June, 1901, when E. S. Frick succeeded C. C. Guernsey as assistant cashier. The only other changes since organization occurred in January, 1911. At that time R. M.

Addison succeeded H. M. Langland as president, M. W. Harden became vice president, E. S. Frick became cashier, and H. N. Harmon was made assistant cashier. The present directors are R. M. Addison, H. M. Langland, Andrew Nelson, M. W. Harden and E. S. Frick.

The First National has had a remarkable growth and has larger deposits than any other bank in Lyon county. According to a recent statement, the deposits are about one-half million dollars. Since the organization the stockholders have received in dividends \$95,000. The bank has a surplus and undivided profit of over \$28,000.

The Marshall State Bank is the youngest of the city's financial institutions. It was opened for business June 15, 1909, with a capital stock of \$25,000. Its officers, chosen at that time and still at the head of the bank, are as follows: Spurgeon Odell, president; James A. McNiven, vice president; S. J. Forbes, cashier. Those gentlemen are also the directors and owners of the stock. The bank owns the building it occupies and the one adjoining.

The Marshall State Bank does a general banking business, makes farm loans, deals in real estate, attends to collections, and writes insurance. During its life of three years the bank has built up an excellent business and has gained the confidence of the people to an extent seldom equalled by an institution of the same age.

The officers of the State Bank were formerly associated in the real estate, loan and collection business under the firm name of Odell & McNiven. They succeeded D. D. Forbes & Company, one of the pioneer real estate firms of the city

## OTHER INSTITUTIONS.

The municipal power and light plant was built in 1894, furnishing water and electric lights. The plant was enlarged in 1905 and new and better machinery added. Another addition was made two years later and in 1908 all-day electric light service was inaugurated. This service is now used extensively for power by printing offices, butcher shops, laundry, creamery, machine shops, garages, elevators, etc.

The plant is strictly modern and one of the best in Southwestern Minnesota. It is equipped with high-pressure boilers, cross compound direct-connected engines, and 2300 volts, sixty cycle, three-phase alternating current system. The city water is supplied by artesian wells. Pressure is maintained on the water system by direct driven steam pumps. Recently a central heating system has been installed and most of the business houses on the southwest side of Main Street are heated from the municipal plant. The heat is supplied by the exhaust steam from the pumps and a portion of the engine exhaust.

One of the institutions in which the people of Marshall take great pride is the flouring mill operated by the Marshall Milling Company. It is one of the really big concerns of Southwestern Minnesota, maintaining an enormous plant, and it has placed Marshall on the map for many people who otherwise would not have heard of the city.

The Sleepy Eye Milling Company in 1892 bought a small flouring mill in Marshall, and in 1893 the Marshall Milling Company was organized and incorporated. Its first officers were William Gieseke, president; William F. Gieseke,

secretary; and A. Blanchard, treasurer. For more than a decade the business was conducted on a comparatively small scale, but the business grew and in 1905 there was completed at a cost of \$100,000 a modern mill. Other improvements have since been made, and the Marshall Milling Company today has one of the finest plants in the Northwest.

The mill proper is a six-story brick building and is operated twenty-four hours a day. There are large elevators, warehouses and other buildings that go to make up a model plant.

The Northwestern Telephone Exchange Company is one of the business institutions of Marshall. It is the successor of the Southwestern Minnesota Telephone Company, which installed the first telephone exchange in Marshall. The last named company, established by Pipestone capitalists, entered Lyon county in 1897 and built exchanges at Marshall, Tracy and Minneota. T. F. Robinson was president and manager of the company and C. E. Patterson was in charge of the Marshall exchange.

The present company purchased the properties in Lyon county August 1, 1906, rebuilt the lines in 1910, and moved the exchange to the News-Messenger Building. M. B. Hanson is the local manager.<sup>37</sup> Several rural lines are given connections with the Marshall line. The first rural telephone line was built by the old company in 1901.

One of the big business institutions of the city is the Marshall Tile and Sidewalk Company, which was incorporated in January, 1907. The plant is one of the best equipped in the state and covers about six acres of land. The best tile manufacturing machinery on

<sup>37</sup>The officers of the Northwestern Telephone Exchange Company are as follows: C. E. Yost, of Omaha, president; C. P. Wainman, of Minneapolis, vice president; George F. McFarland, of Omaha, general manager; M. L. Lane, of Minneapolis, com-

mercial superintendent; J. W. Christie, of Omaha, treasurer; W. R. Overmire, of Omaha, auditor; George K. Blakely, of Sioux Falls, district commercial manager.

the market has been installed. The curing bin is made of cement blocks and all the tile are steam-cured. The company manufactures cement drain tile and building blocks and builds sidewalks and does other contract work. The product is used extensively throughout Lyon county and the trade territory extends to all points on the Northwestern, Great Northern and Milwaukee

railroads within a radius of one hundred miles.

The officers and stockholders of the company are as follows: W. W. Simmons, president; Samuel Molter, vice president; Spurgeon Odell, secretary; W. F. Gillette, treasurer; James A. McNiven, J. G. Schutz, Anton M. Rydeen, M. M. English and Herman Schurz.





# Tracy Scenes





## CHAPTER XI.

### TRACY—1875-1912.

**R**ANKING second in size among Lyon county municipalities is Tracy, a city of 1876 people, according to the last census. It is in Monroe township, in the extreme southeastern corner of the county, the business center being only one mile from the Redwood county line and two and one-half miles from the Murray county line. It is a division point of the Northwestern railroad and is the eastern terminus of the Dakota Central branch of that road. Its elevation above sea level is 1403 feet.

Tracy is a prosperous and progressive city and presents an attractive appearance. It has broad streets, lined with substantial business houses and handsome residences. As a business point Tracy takes high rank, because of its favorable location as regards trade territory. All the improvements to be found in Minnesota towns of its size are in Tracy. It has an excellent water-works system, electric light plant, good schools and churches.

While Tracy was not founded until 1875, we may go back of that date several years to get at the beginning of its history. When the Winona & St. Peter railroad was constructed in 1872 there was apparently no thought of planting a village where Tracy was later built, and the only station established

in Lyon county at that time was Marshall. But a country postoffice named Summit (which the Tracy office succeeded) was located on the line of the road just over the line in Redwood county, one and one-half miles east of the future city of Tracy. The office was established in 1872 and Levi Montgomery was the postmaster, conducting it at his farm home. Summit postoffice was operated there until moved to Tracy in the spring of 1875.

During the first half of the seventies quite a number of homesteaders located in Monroe township and there was also quite a flourishing settlement on Lake Shetek, only a short distance south of the site of Tracy. In the spring of 1875 the Winona & St. Peter Railroad Company, which had come into possession of section 23 by grant, laid out the village and named it Tracy, in honor of a director of the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad Company.

The original plat included portions of the northeast quarter and the southeast quarter of the section and was surveyed by J. B. Berry. It consisted of ten blocks on the northeast side of the track, divided by South, Morgan, First, Second, Third and Fourth Streets. The dedication was made April 27, 1875, by Albert Keep, as president of the Winona & St. Peter Railroad Company, and the

instrument was filed in the office of the register of deeds May 18, 1875.<sup>1</sup>

Almost simultaneous with the platting of the site came the building of the town. The first building was put up early in the spring of 1875. It was a warehouse, erected by Neil Currie. The station was established about the same time, with J. L. Craig as first agent. The Currie warehouse served the purpose of a depot until the summer of 1876. The second building on the site was a hotel erected by Henry H. Welch, who conducted the hostelry until the fall of 1879. The third building and the first store was located on the site early in the spring. The building had been erected on the farm of E. L. Starr, just east of the site, in the fall of 1874, by H. N. Joy and that gentleman moved it to Tracy and located it at the corner of Front and Third Streets. In it a store was opened, conducted under the firm name of Taylor & Joy.

Although the village was platted as Tracy, the site was known as Shetek, or Shetek Station, until June, 1876, taking its name from the postoffice. It was in May, 1875, that Summit postoffice was moved to the new village and named Shetek.<sup>2</sup> The office was conducted in the store of Taylor & Joy and H. N. Joy was the first postmaster.<sup>3</sup>

Several other enterprises were started

<sup>1</sup>Additions to Tracy have been platted as follows: Randall & Youmans', November 20, 1878, by Carlton S. Randall and Charles M. Youmans; surveyed by C. L. Van Fleet.

First Railway, August 9, 1881, by Winona & St. Peter Railroad Company; surveyed by Thomas F. Nicholl.

Cowles & Davis', May 28, 1883, by John P. Davis; surveyed by George P. Ela.

Second Railway, June 6, 1883, by Winona & St. Peter Railroad Company; surveyed by George P. Ela. Moses & Hennings' (East Tracy), April 24, 1884, by William Hennings and William S. Moses; surveyed by S. P. McIntyre.

Randall's, May 10, 1884, by John J. Randall and Carlton S. Randall; surveyed by J. W. Blake.

Johnson's, March 17, 1886, by Ole Johnson; surveyed by S. P. McIntyre.

Swenson's, October 15, 1902, by Andrew Swenson; surveyed by W. A. Hawkins.

Miller's, April 4, 1904, by Earle S. Miller; surveyed by W. A. Hawkins.

Moses' Second, November 11, 1904, by William S. Moses; surveyed by W. A. Hawkins.

at Shetek Station during the summer and fall of 1875. Gley & Brauns opened a general store and erected the second warehouse, J. P. Davis opened a third general store, Truax & Dudrey and J. M. Wardell established lumber yards and sold farm machinery and Mr. Wardell opened a furniture store, David Stafford built a hardware store, Allen Bates engaged in the saloon business,<sup>4</sup> a Mr. Mathews conducted a harness shop, and two churches were organized.

The Shetek Station correspondent to the Marshall Messenger of November 12, 1875, told of the growth of the little village during the first season of its history:

This thriving little burg in the big bend has been making good use of its time this summer, and where a year ago there was nothing the traveler now looks out on a nice little village. Notwithstanding the drawbacks it has received, there are few settlements on the frontier that have made better records in the same time. The second town in Lyon county in importance, it has the same elements of life and growth that have pushed Marshall into its present thrifty condition.

Shetek Station's present business and public buildings are as follows: The Methodists and Congregationalists have each a comfortable church building; there are three general stores, kept by Gley & Brauns, Taylor & Joy and J. P. Davis; Truax & Dudrey and J. M. Wardell have each a lumber yard and deal in farm machinery; J. M. Wardell has opened a furniture store; Mathews has a harness shop; Stafford keeps a hardware store; there are two warehouses, Currie's and Gley & Braun's; there is a good hotel kept by Welch and a saloon by Bates. This, we think, makes a good showing for one summer.

<sup>2</sup>"We learn that the postmaster general has changed the name of Summit in Lyon county to Shetek and appointed H. N. Joy postmaster."—*Prairie Schooner* May 28, 1875.

<sup>3</sup>H. N. Joy served as postmaster of Shetek about one year. He was succeeded for a short time by S. S. Truax, and in June, 1876, the name of the office was changed to Tracy. In September, 1876, E. O. Braun took the office and served until July, 1888. Under his administration, in July, 1879, a money order office was established. Charles W. Main was postmaster from July, 1888, to January, 1892; M. D. Gibbs to March 1, 1896; O. J. Rea to February, 1900; W. R. Edwards to April 1, 1908; and A. H. Rowland from that time to the present.

Three rural free delivery routes are operated from the Tracy office. No. 1 was established January 15, 1900, with F. M. Hanks as carrier; No. 2, October 15, 1904, with R. N. Rowland as carrier; No. 3, August 15, 1906, with H. J. Flateau as carrier.

<sup>4</sup>The Board of County Commissioners on May 31, 1875, granted license to Allen Bates to sell liquor at Shetek Station from June 1, 1875, to June 1, 1876. The license fee for the year was \$35.

Although several business houses had been started, Shetek Station was still a very small village in 1875, and when the census was taken that year the population of Monroe township, including the village, was only 181. During 1876 the grasshoppers were a burden and not much progress was made. During the summer the name of the village was changed from Shetek Station to Tracy<sup>5</sup> and the railroad company erected a depot building. At that time the county paper referred to Tracy as a village of two or three stores, two church buildings, school house, hotel, etc. Likewise there was little advancement during 1877. J. L. Craig established the first livery stable that year.

More prosperous times came in 1878. The grasshopper plague was a thing of the past and many new settlers located in Tracy and the vicinity. A correspondent writing to the county paper in March said: "Our village is all life now. Every train is bringing new settlers to our border, so that the future of our town will undoubtedly bask in sunshine. Trade is brisk, taking the time of year into consideration. Improvements are going on every day. Sidewalks have been built, which we have long needed. Another store building is going up."

In May, 1878, a citizen of Tracy wrote to the Currie Pioneer as follows:

Several new buildings are going up, among which are the new hardware store of Mr. Robertson, the dwelling house of Rev. John Gimson, an addition to the Tracy Hotel, and an addition to the store of D. Stafford. Mr. Hughes, of the firm of Hughes & Owens, has returned from Chicago, where he purchased a stock of goods for the new store, which is now nearly completed. The drug store is also nearly finished and another one is about to be commenced. A third hardware store is talked of, also a furniture store.

<sup>5</sup>"Allow me the privilege of writing you a few lines from this place. As you will see, the name has been changed from Shetek to Tracy. It is a little more lively here than usual and looks quite like a little town. Our hotel has been enlarged to a two-story

Among the enterprises started in 1878 were a hardware store by D. H. Evans, a general store by Iverson & Thurin, meat market by E. L. Starr, store by Beach & Company, grocery store by Mr. Warren, millinery store by Mrs. Warren, and a machinery depot by Ole Rialson & Company.

During the first four years of its history the aspirations of Tracy were not great, and few had the temerity to predict that it would ever become aught but a little trading point. But early in the year 1879 came knowledge that a railroad was to be built from that village westward into Dakota Territory. The effect on the struggling village was magical. The town was filled with strangers, some looking for farms, others for business opportunities. Before the close of spring fourteen frame buildings had been completed, others were in process of construction, and several new enterprises were founded. The town was lively all summer because of the activity in railroad construction, and there was a large increase in population. The census of 1880 showed a population of 322. An item of importance in the history of Tracy during this period was the establishment of a United States land office there in May, 1880.

Early in 1881 the citizens of Tracy believed the village had developed to a point where incorporation was desirable and they asked the Legislature to take the necessary steps. The village was incorporated under the general laws of the state by an act approved February 5, 1881. The following commissioners were named in the act to set the machinery in motion: M. T. Bohannon, J. M. Wardell, D. H. Evans, E. O.

building and the railroad company is at work erecting a building 24x48 feet. It is to be used for a branch land office of the company."—Tracy Correspondent, June 23, 1876.

Brauns and M. D. Gibbs. The first election was held at the Commercial Hotel March 15, 1881, when 103 votes were cast and a set of village officers was chosen. A short time later the Village Council was organized and Tracy began municipal government.<sup>6</sup>

Following is a list of those who have been elected to office under the village and city governments:<sup>7</sup>

1881—President, J. M. Wardell; trustees, Peter Iverson, Nathan Beach, M. T. Bohannan; recorder, F. S. Brown; treasurer, Anson Warren; justice, Daniel Pierce; constable, S. S. Truax.

1884<sup>8</sup>—President, J. M. Wardell; trustees, W. H. Little, Peter Iverson, Anson Warren; recorder, C. W. Main; treasurer, G. H. Jessup; justices, M. D. Gibbs, David Stafford; constable, James McMasters.

1888—President, H. M. Workman; trustees, J. W. Bedle, Martin Thurin, John Lloyd; recorder, F. S. Brown; treasurer, R. E. Hughes; justice, W. I. Carver; constables, R. D. Marlette, C. N. Groat.

1889—President, J. M. Wardell; trustees, Martin Thurin, L. F. O'Brien, A. H. Perry; recorder, F. S. Brown; treasurer, G. H. Jessup; justice, W. I. Carver.

1890—President, J. M. Wardell; trustees, A. H. Perry, W. F. Parker, L. F. O'Brien; recorder, F. S. Brown; treasurer, G. H. Jessup; justices, W. I. Carver, James Kneal; constables, James Mullins, R. E. Willis.

1891—President, Martin Thurin; trustees, J. W. Bedle, L. S. Tyler, E. P. Parks; recorder, F. S. Brown; treasurer, G. H. Jessup; justices, W. I. Carver, Levi Montgomery.

1892—President, Martin Thurin; trustees, L. S. Tyler, E. P. Parks, R. E. Hughes; recorder, O. F. Norwood; treasurer, D. T. McArthur; justice, W. I. Carver; constable, A. A. Christensen.

1893—President, D. T. McArthur; trustees, O. F. Norwood, W. F. Parker, Swan Anderson; recorder, C. W. Main; treasurer, R. E. Hughes; justice, T. M. Quarton; constable, A. A. Christensen.

1893 (city)—Mayor, H. M. Workman; aldermen, C. F. Lehmann, O. J. Rea, J. W. Bedle, E. P. Parks; recorder, C. W. Main.<sup>9</sup>

1894—Mayor, D. H. Evans; aldermen, A. R. Thompson, H. B. Swartwood; recorder, Morris Workman; treasurer, W. O. Musser.

1895—Mayor, J. M. Wardell; aldermen, O. F. Norwood, D. T. McArthur, E. P. Parks.

1896—Mayor, W. F. Parker; aldermen, W. J. Richard, D. T. McArthur; recorder, L. J. Hunter; treasurer, W. O. Musser.

1897—Mayor, W. H. Little; aldermen, T. M. Quarton, H. J. Pattridge; recorder, D. F. Densel; treasurer, W. O. Musser; justices, A. T. Downing, M. D. Gibbs.

1898—Mayor, W. D. James; aldermen, N. O. Peterson, J. M. Wardell; recorder, J. M. Riegel; treasurer, W. O. Musser; justice, P. M. Nupen.

1899—Mayor, W. D. James; aldermen, C. J. Berdan, D. T. McArthur; recorder, J. M. Riegel; treasurer, W. O. Musser; justice, M. D. Gibbs.

1900—Mayor, W. F. Parker; aldermen, Nils S. Taarud, H. R. Searles; recorder, J. M. Riegel; treasurer, W. O. Musser; justice, J. T. Hanson.

1901—Mayor, J. W. Bedle; aldermen, W. D. Haycock, F. P. Parks; recorder, J. M. Riegel; treasurer, W. O. Musser.

1902—Mayor, H. W. Burlingame; aldermen, R. E. Willis, J. J. Laughlin; recorder, A. H. Rowland; treasurer, W. O. Musser; justice, J. T. Hanson.

1903—Mayor, H. W. Burlingame; aldermen, T. M. Quarton, J. N. Wiesner; recorder, A. H. Rowland; treasurer, Ira W. Bedle.

1904—Mayor, J. M. Wardell; aldermen, J. C. Filkins, H. A. Bates; recorder, A. H. Rowland; treasurer, Ira W. Bedle; justice, C. J. Berdan.

1905—Mayor, N. J. Robinson; aldermen, Charles Taarned, J. N. Wiesner; recorder, A. H. Rowland; treasurer, Ira W. Bedle; justice, M. D. Gibbs.

1906—Mayor, N. J. Robinson; aldermen, J. C. Filkins, John Stonehouse; recorder, A. H. Rowland; treasurer, Ira W. Bedle; justice, C. J. Berdan.

1907—Mayor, J. R. Fitch; aldermen, P. M. Nupin, T. H. Webb; recorder, A. H. Rowland; treasurer, E. Herzog; justice, M. D. Gibbs.

1908—Mayor, J. R. Fitch; aldermen, H. E. McKenzie, G. E. Schmidt; recorder, L. J. Fitch; treasurer, E. Herzog.

1909—Mayor, C. C. Richard; aldermen, Louis Rialson, John Selck; recorder, L. J. Fitch; treasurer, E. Herzog; justice, George Town.

1910—Mayor, C. C. Richard; aldermen, G. A. Hansen, G. E. Schmidt; recorder, L. J. Fitch; treasurer, E. Herzog; justice, C. J. Berdan.

1911—Mayor, T. S. Bonnallie; aldermen, Louis Rialson, John Selck; recorder, L. J. Fitch; treasurer, E. Herzog; justice, W. R. Edwards.

1912—Mayor, T. S. Bonnallie; aldermen, Samuel Furan, G. E. Schmidt; recorder, L. J. Fitch; treasurer, E. Herzog; justice, C. J. Berdan.

<sup>6</sup>Village government was abandoned in 1893 and was replaced by government under a city charter, the change having been made on August 3. A commission to prepare a new charter was named February 9, 1907, completed its work and reported the following August. Again in April, 1911, a new commission was named to draft a charter to submit to the voters for approval or rejection. It completed its work March 5, 1912, but as it had not reported within the six months' time limit, it became necessary to have the commission reappointed before making a final report. At the city election in April, 1912, the new charter was adopted by a vote of 237 to 116.

<sup>7</sup>Saloon license has been granted in Tracy during its

entire corporate history. On several occasions the matter has been voted on under the local option law. Following were the results at those elections (possibly not complete):

1894—For, 244; against, 118.

1896—For, 243; against, 153.

1897—License by 48 majority.

1898—For, 183; against, 92.

1899—For, 214; against, 139.

1900—For, 215; against, 141.

<sup>8</sup>The roster for the years 1882-83-85-86-87 are not available.

<sup>9</sup>Resigned and Morris Workman appointed.

Tracy advanced by leaps and bounds during the early eighties and soon became the largest village in the county. The Tracy Gazette in January, 1882, stated that fifty buildings had been erected during the preceding summer. Progress was substantial in 1882. The next year came a boom that carried the town beyond the expectations of its most ardent well-wishers and gained for Tracy state-wide attention.<sup>10</sup>

The causes of the prosperous times in 1883 were the action of the railroad company in making the town a division point and the expenditure of many thousands of dollars in railroad improvements. Also adding to the effect were excellent crops and good times in the state at large. Of the activity at Tracy the St. Paul Pioneer Press in October, 1883, said:

The immense outlays being rapidly made by the railroad company, in the way of extensive improvements, mark a new era in the permanent progress and prosperity of the town. A fine brick and stone round house, with stalls for thirty locomotives, is being erected as fast as a large force of workmen can push it, and it is now almost completed. A handsome brick machine shop of large dimensions is also nearly ready for occupancy. A splendid turn-table is being put in and two coal sheds are being constructed, each three hundred feet in length. The fact is the improvements being made by the railroad company at Tracy will rank among the most complete and important of any on the entire line of the road. . . . A twelve-inch water main has been laid to Lake Sigel for the conveyance of a bountiful supply of pure and wholesome water for railroad purposes. Many other improvements are to be immediately made, the details of which cannot here be enumerated, but all of which combine to make Tracy a very important railroad center.

So soon as it was learned that the railroad company had decided to make the improvements, many new business houses were founded. A directory of business and professional men in Tracy, published in C. F. Case's History of Lyon County in 1884, was as follows:

<sup>10</sup>The Winona Republican in June, 1883, said: "There is probably no section of Southern Minnesota where a more prosperous and jubilant feeling exists this season than at Tracy. The town itself is growing in a manner exceeding any period of its existence. The building improvements are of a substantial and permanent character."

Bank—Bank of Tracy, by Jessup & Company.  
General Merchandise—Pattridge Brothers, J. P. Davis, R. E. Hughes, Warren & Owens, Iverson & Thurin, A. H. Perry.  
Clothing—Jacobi Brothers, John Shea.  
Groceries—Gauerke, Weber & Company.  
Hardware—D. H. Evans, H. Stafford, J. E. Clark, Nathan Beach.  
Furniture—J. M. Wardell.  
Drugs and Jewelry—C. L. Bohannan, F. E. Mallory.  
Meat Market—L. A. Walden, J. W. Potter.  
Harness—Wagner & Company.  
Millinery and Dressmaking—Steneragel & Currie, Warren & Inman.  
Novelty Store—H. F. Seiter.  
Tailor Shops—H. Alexander, P. A. Lamberg.  
Lumber—Wardell, Beach & Company.  
Machinery—S. D. Peterson, Marlette & Lloyd, D. H. Evans.  
Elevators—Van Dusen & Company, Whitten & Judd, Winona Mill Company, D. H. Evans.  
Coal—Van Dusen & Company, J. J. Randall.  
Hotels—M. D. Gibbs, Neil Finch, B. K. Cowles, Murphy & McDonald, Larson Brothers, A. D. McMasters.  
Restaurants—C. J. Gardener, Mary Leavett.  
Saloons—J. J. Hartigan, Fred Lehman, Martin Hose, C. Anderson.  
Beer Depots—August Schell, C. & J. Michel, Hartigan & Armstrong.  
Wholesale Liquors—E. H. Roach & Company.  
Newspaper—Tracy Trumpet, by W. M. Todd.  
Photograph Gallery—W. I. Carver.  
Livery Barns—Lindsley & Fitch, J. L. Craig, John Germain.  
Laundries—Ching Kee, Mary Otis.  
Shoe Shops—James Marshall, Henry Heine.  
Blacksmith Shops—Paul Haugen, John Glynn.  
Wagonmaker—John Selck.  
Barber Shops—Jackson & Seiter, H. A. Bates.  
Painters—Manuel & Cogswell.  
Express Agent—I. E. Segur.  
Skating Rink—Welch & Davis.  
Attorneys—C. W. Main, Van Buskirk & Brown, John Lind.  
Physicians—C. M. Ferro, Mrs. L. Ferro, S. S. Jones, H. M. Workman, O. E. Case.  
Postmaster—E. O. Brauns.

The census of 1885 gave Tracy a population of 1210, showing it to be the largest town in Lyon county. The increase in five years had been 888 and it had 224 more people than Marshall. The growth and development were steady during the next half decade and Tracy advanced to the second municipality in size in Southwestern Minnesota. Its population was 1400 in 1890.<sup>11</sup>

<sup>11</sup>According to the census of 1890, only Luverne, in Rock county, had a larger population than Tracy in the counties of Rock, Nobles, Jackson, Martin, Watonwan, Cottonwood, Murray, Pipestone, Lincoln, Lyon, Redwood, Renville, Sibley, Yellow Medicine and Lac qui Parle. The population of Luverne was 1466.

A blow that for a time checked Tracy's forward march was a disastrous fire, which occurred November 29, 1891, and which was the most destructive conflagration in the whole history of Lyon county. For a time it appeared as though the whole city north of the railroad track must go, but the flames were finally checked after a loss of nearly \$50,000 had been sustained.

The fire was discovered at fifteen minutes before eleven o'clock in the forenoon and when the alarm was given the flames had gained considerable headway. The fire started in the basement of a store building and when discovered the flames had eaten their way to the wooden sidewalk in front and were reaching to the window sills of two or three buildings. Had there been a sufficient water supply and apparatus to get it to the fire, the flames might have been quenched, but Tracy at that time had not a waterworks system. The hook and ladder company did great work at the fire and without adequate apparatus succeeded in confining the flames to the one block. For hours the members of the company fought for the preservation of the town, among the leaders in the fight being Messrs. Tevlin, Hennessy and Thurin.

The flames spread rapidly and it soon became apparent that a serious conflagration was certain, with small means of combating it. When it was seen that adjoining structures must go, there was a general movement to save stocks of goods and thousands of dollars worth were piled in the streets. By reason of this the loss of personal property was not great. Heroic efforts were made to check the spread, but in vain. At one time a cable was attached to a frame building to pull it out of the course of the flames by a locomotive, but the building was pulled to pieces and was

eagerly seized upon by the destroying element.

Marshall was appealed to for aid, and that city's fire department was rushed to the scene. Water was hauled close to the raging flames by locomotives and the steamer of the Marshall department was put in action. Two streams were kept playing on the fire for more than five hours and the progress of the conflagration was finally checked.

Twenty-six buildings were destroyed, classed as follows: three hotels, sixteen store buildings, six barns, one warehouse and the Tammany Hall residence. Of the buildings, thirteen were two stories, one was of brick, and two brick-veneered. The burned district covered the central and most prominent block in the village, bounded by Front, Third and Fourth Streets. Every lot on the front of the block was occupied by a building, while only four buildings were located on the rear of the block.

An estimate made shortly after the fire placed the losses on buildings and the insurance carried as follows:

OWNERS	Loss	Insurance
J. Mullen, residence.....	\$200	
G. Peterson, store.....	400	
J. B. Waugh, hotel.....	2000	\$2000
J. J. Hartigan, saloon....	2500	1500
H. C. Heine, store.....	500	750
R. E. Hughes, two stores	5500	
E. O. Brauns, two stores	2000	500
I. A. Walden, hotel.....	1600	
D. H. Stafford, two stores	2500	400
Bedle & Segur, store.....	750	750
A. Bates, store.....	750	
M. D. Gibbs, hotel.....	1500	1000
V. R. Wilson, store.....	700	700
O. L. Pattridge, store....	2000	1500
Hartigan & Brown, store	2000	800
J. D. Owens, store.....	2000	1800
J. Lloyd, warehouse, barn	400	
B. Johnson, barn.....	50	
D. H. Evans, store.....	125	125
Geffert Brothers, saloon..	300	300
John Owens, store.....	100	100
Totals.....	\$28,195	\$9225



THE GREAT TRACY FIRE

Showing a Part of the Ruins After the Terrible Conflagration of November, 1891.



The losses and insurance carried on personal property were as follows:

OWNERS	Loss	Insurance
J. B. Waugh, hotel.....	\$500	
Fitch Brothers, barber shop.....	50	
P. Sanders, saloon.....	1600	\$1000
H. C. Heine, shoes.....	200	750
Ed. Miller, notions.....	200	600
C. W. Main, postoffice....	250	
R. E. Hughes, merchandise.....	6000	
T. L. Carryer, restaurant	200	
City Hotel.....	150	
Phil Texlin, saloon.....	1600	1000
D. Stafford, hardware....	2000	
Bedle & Segur, meat market.....	300	
A. Bates, restaurant.....	300	
M. D. Gibbs, hotel.....	500	
V. R. Wilson, jewelry....	150	
O. L. Pattridge, merchandise.....	300	2700
J. D. Owens, merchandise	300	2500
J. Lloyd, machinery.....	2000	
Masonic Lodges.....	447	500
A. O. U. W. Lodge.....	156	200
Totals.....	\$14,703	\$9250

The total losses were \$45,399 and the insurance carried by all who sustained losses was only \$18,476. Because of the combustible character of the buildings, almost prohibitive insurance rates prevailed and little insurance was carried. The fire was a serious blow to the people of Tracy and came at the worst possible time of the year. The merchants were in the midst of the best trade season ever experienced in the county, and as winter was just beginning rebuilding at once was out of the question.

During the summer before the fire bonds to the amount of \$25,000 had been voted to put in a system of water-works and supply fire protection, but the work had not been undertaken. After the fire, however, the work was

put under way and the system was completed in the fall of 1892. An electric lighting system was also installed the same season. A part of the burned district was rebuilt in 1892, but the village was a long time recovering from the blow.

During the last twenty years Tracy's progress has been steady and it has developed into an exceptionally prosperous little city. Its population was 1687 in 1895, was increased to 1911 in 1900, and reached high water mark in 1905 with a total of 2015. The census of 1910 gave a population of 1876.

#### THE SCHOOLS.

A public school was established in Tracy a very short time after the first business enterprises were started. The school was opened in the summer of 1875 and was conducted in the recently erected Presbyterian church building. Miss Stella Cleveland was the first teacher and the first pupils were Mary Starr, Fred Starr, Sanford Joy, Sherman Joy and John Craig. The school was conducted in the Presbyterian church until 1880 and the teachers during that time were Hannah Evans, Harriet E. Tucker and C. W. Candee.

A four-room two-story brick school house was erected in 1880 at a cost of \$6000. The first teachers after the house was built were E. A. Currie and Alice Powell. Others who taught the Tracy school prior to the reorganization in 1888 were Frank L. Randall, Elizabeth Lewis, Gertrude Todd, Mrs. Mackay, Professor Lee, C. C. Baldwin, Katie Murphy, Addie Gary and Annie Shand.

A reorganization under the independent district plan was effected in 1888.<sup>12</sup>

<sup>12</sup>The following have served as members of the Board of Education since the reorganization in 1888: A. R. Thompson, W. R. Edwards, C. L. Bohannon, Mrs. J. O. Askevold, Mrs. L. F. Ferro, G. H. Jessup, P. J. Newton, W. H. Little, J. Frank Durst, H. F.

Seiter, H. J. Pattridge, Richard Rowland, C. M. Ferro, O. F. Norwood, J. A. Hunter, H. M. Workman, W. F. Parker, J. J. Laughlin, O. L. Pattridge, D. T. McArthur, Louis Rialson, J. A. Rickert and E. B. Johnson.

A high school was established the same year in charge of Superintendent H. G. Klepper<sup>13</sup> and the first class was graduated therefrom in 1890.<sup>14</sup>

In time the school population so increased that added facilities were demanded. A frame building was erected and in July, 1893, the people voted to issue \$25,000 bonds for a new building, by a vote of 76 to 36. Owing to the financial stringency it was impossible to market the bonds at once, a dispute arose over the selection of a site, and in August the matter of issuing the bonds was put to a vote of the electors of the district. By a vote of 52 to 80 it was decided to postpone the matter.

In the spring of 1895 the people of Tracy decided to erect the building. By a majority of 257, at an election held April 23, the voters authorized the issuance of bonds to the amount of \$30,000. The bonds were sold, the handsome brick school building was

erected and formally opened January 7, 1896.

The lower grades occupied the old building, known as the Central school, and the high school and higher grades occupied the new building. The Central school was destroyed by fire February 29, 1912, bringing a loss of \$10,000, covered by \$7000 insurance. The lower floor of Syndicate Hall or the Finch Building is now used for school purposes and plans are under consideration for the erection of a new school house.

The Tracy schools rank among the best in the state. The present enrollment is 550 and eighteen instructors are employed. The high school has a faculty of seven teachers. In addition to the regular high school course, normal, manual training, agricultural and commercial departments are maintained.

#### THE CHURCHES.

Eight church societies have organiza-

<sup>13</sup>The Tracy High School has had only three superintendents. H. G. Klepper served from 1888 to 1891, G. H. Alden in 1891 and 1892, and Lee Swift from 1892 to the present time. Only two other high school superintendents in Minnesota have had charge of one school for a longer period than Professor Swift has been in charge of the Tracy school. One teacher, Blanche Grant, now Mrs. H. F. Seiter, taught in the Tracy schools twenty-three years.

<sup>14</sup>The following have been graduated from the Tracy High School:

1890—Llewellyn Hunter, Stella Hughes, Maude Edwards, Romie Webster, Walter Carver, Charles Little, Myrtle Johnson, Myrtle Gibbs.

1891—Edgar Davis, Hannah Lloyd, Albert Booth, Edward Hughes, Frank Norris, Annie West, Ernest Wallace.

1892-93-94—No classes.

1895—Jessie Moses, Abbie Moses, Blanche Williams, Callie Carver, Edna Campbell, Annie Carney.

1896—Glenola Collins, Ezra S. Wardell, Alice Ladd, Claude McClellan, Florence Wardell.

1897—Josephine M. Edwards, Cora Jones, William Norwood, Myrtle Ladd, George Norris, N. J. Robinson, Lillian May Richards, Almeda Belle Richards.

1898—Jessie Beach, Cora Craig, Lillian Starr, Frank Segur.

1899—Annie Reinhold, Margaret Cushing, Pearl Durst, Clara Tweet, Ernie Brauns, Lee Prouty, Edward Jones, Charles Main, William Titus, Helena Thurin.

1900—John Wardell, Robert Campbell, Ross A. Wiley, Clara Mathews, Edna Stafford, Mildred Hunter, David Crouch.

1901—Agnes Campbell, Jennie Owens, Edna Cole, Charles Donaldson, Nellie Richardson, Lucy Starr, Gertrude Manuel.

1902—Maude Gibbs, Francis Larson, Gilbert Gilbertson, Frankie Adams, Edward Durst, Van Mathews, Elizabeth Cushing, Ruth Jessup, Fred Wiesner.

1903—Vera Edwards, Flossie Bass, Clara Shnaar, Tessie Behan, Ada Casserly, Edna Thurin, Frank Bigham.

1904—Margaret Mitchell, Bessie Wardell, Clay Pattridge, Verna Parks, Hazel Anselme, Angie Behan, Ethel Sanborn, Neil Currie, Hattie Rowland.

1905—Anna Finnegan, Stella Campbell, Hazel Brightman, Gladys Durst, Florence Curtis, Lou Woodruff, Marjorie Nagler, Vivian Doherty, Effie Campbell, Helen Jessup.

1906—Warner Workman, Edward Tweet, Alice Cull, Katherine Welch, Hazel Edwards, Cecile Owens, Oleanna Lee, Luella Norwood, Anna Dalton, Mattie Murphy.

1907—Roscoe Webb, Stella Bedle, Myron Gibbs, Josie Parks, Carl Tweet, David Doherty, Fayette Doherty, Vaughn Evans, Malcolm Nash, May Swift, Mark Pattridge, Archer English, Elmer Laughlin, Grover Lehman.

1908—Vivian Pattridge, Millie Weeks, William Curtis, William Haycock, Gladys Doherty, Ralph Finnegan, Wilma Larson, Mabel Olson, Vera Price, Grace Strand, Jessie Murphy.

1909—Vera Swift, Mable Hull, Clara Jacobson, Ada Purvis, Elizabeth Purvis, Nelle Fetter, Mabel Nupin, Charles Campbell, Lydia Johnson, Mourine Edwards, Cecil Doherty, Anna Mickelson, Harlan Rowland, Verle Parks, Florence Montgomery, Gladys Endersbee, Jeanette Mitchell, Marguerite O'Brien, Anna Welsh, Selma Brown.

1910—Ethel Gosslee, Esther Nylm, Martha Goltz, Lena Olson, Julia Tweet, Marie Vahle, Elizabeth Youngs, Carrol Nash, Howard Pierce, Winnifred Price, Mabelle Sandbo.

1911—Eloise James, Esther Owens, Lester Webb, Kathrine Brown, Zella Campbell, Joe Dalton, Will Mitchell, Winnifred Roos, Bernadette O'Brien, Selma Olson, Minnie Hanson, Walter Laughlin, Olga Appelquist, Ruth Galstad, Nora Jacobson, Winnie Evans, Henry Taurud, Emma Pattridge, Clara Murphy, Dudley Seiter, Irene Larson, Napoleon Mongeau.

1912—Vivian M. Klopp, R. Lucile Larson, Mary Catherine Nelson, Blanch E. Campbell, Gladys E. Walker, Lydia A. Stahn, Raymond C. Jacobson, Esther R. Erbes, Coral U. Fitch, Harold W. Kelley, Floyd L. McElvain, Valeria E. Kahl.

tions in Tracy. They are the Presbyterian, Methodist, Norwegian Lutheran, Catholic, German Lutheran, Swedish Lutheran, United Norwegian Lutheran and Episcopal. Nearly all of these are old societies and the organization of some of them antedate the founding of the village.

So early as the spring and summer of 1873 religious services were held at the home of E. L. Starr, adjoining the present site of Tracy, conducted by Rev. Ransom Wait, Presbyterian. In the fall of 1874 a Presbyterian church society was organized with Cyrus Clark, H. N. Joy and Mr. and Mrs. H. H. Welch as members<sup>15</sup> and Rev. Wait as pastor. When Tracy was founded the following spring among the first buildings put up was a Presbyterian church, which cost only a few hundred dollars. Rev. Wait was pastor of the church two years.<sup>16</sup>

The Presbyterian church of Tracy increased in membership and in a few years outgrew the original edifice. In 1885 a new building, 36x48 feet, with a 19x24 feet addition, was constructed under the direction of a building committee of which George F. Bidwell was chairman. The cost was about \$5000<sup>17</sup> and the new edifice had a seating capacity of 350. It was dedicated, free from debt, on March 7, 1886, by Rev. S. G. Anderson. A short time later a parsonage was built. The present membership is over 200.

For a number of years in the early days the Congregationalists had a church

and Sunday School, the school being the first religious society in the village. It was organized at the home of J. M. Wardell in June, 1874, with twenty members and with W. S. Moses as superintendent. Rev. E. H. Alden, a Congregational missionary, conducted services in the vicinity in 1874 and a church was organized with seven members and with Rev. J. H. Jenkins as pastor. A little church building was erected in the summer of 1875 and for several years the society was maintained. Rev. Philip Peregrine was the second pastor and Rev. H. C. Simmons the third. By the terms of an agreement between the Congregationalists and Presbyterians of Tracy and Sleepy Eye, the field at the latter place was left to the Congregationalists and that society withdrew from Tracy in favor of the Presbyterians.

Another pioneer church of Tracy is the Methodist. It was organized in 1875 as a result of preaching by Rev. Gimson in Tracy and vicinity. It was established with few members, and E. W. Healy, G. W. Goble and C. Arnoldt were the first trustees. For several years the Methodists had no church and worshipped every other Sabbath in the Congregational edifice. Rev. J. W. Powell succeeded Rev. Gimson and occupied the pulpit until 1882.

During the pastorate of Rev. H. J. Harrington,<sup>18</sup> when the membership had reached about twenty-five, in 1882, a church building was erected. It was dedicated by Rev. Forbes. The Meth-

<sup>15</sup>Among the other early day members of the Presbyterian church were John L. Craig, John Ferguson, Mrs. Mary Jones, Mrs. Mary A. Loudon, James Rose and Mrs. Alice Starr.

<sup>16</sup>Following is a list of the pastors who have served the Presbyterian church of Tracy: Ransom Wait, 1874-76; Clarke Loudon, 1876-80; John C. McKee, 1880-84; Frank M. Carson (student), 1884; Samuel G. Anderson, 1884-85; Daniel A. Jameison, 1885-87; Augustus H. Carver, 1887-91; William J. Palm, 1891-94; L. F. Badger, 1894-02; W. D. Stires, 1902-07; E. E. Dobson, 1907-12.

<sup>17</sup>Among the contributors to the building fund of

the Presbyterian church were the following: Chicago & Northwestern Railroad Company and employees, \$860; residents of Tracy, \$1265; officers of the railroad company outside of Tracy, \$235; Laird-Norton Company, \$100.

<sup>18</sup>Pastors of the Tracy Methodist church since 1882 have been as follows: H. J. Harrington, 1882-84; Butler, 1884-86; Teal, 1886-88; Terwilliger, 1889-90; Eckert and Triggs, 1890-91; R. D. Phillips, 1891-95; W. S. Cochran, 1895-96; W. C. Sage, 1896; L. A. Willsey, 1896-98; E. V. Vaughn, 1898-02; G. W. Hickman, 1902-03; H. D. Seckner, 1903-06; F. Fredrickson, 1906-11; E. H. Edwards, 1911-12.

odist society is now in prosperous condition and has a membership of about 120.<sup>19</sup>

The Norwegian Lutheran church is one of the older religious societies of Tracy. In the early eighties services were irregularly held in the older church buildings and in private residences and there was no regular pastor. The church was organized February 11, 1883, with the following members: Jacob A. Jacobson, Paul P. Haugen, John Tweet, Iver H. Engen, Hellek Olson, Peter Olson, Bolette Olson, B. Pederson, Kristine Pederson, Iver Olson Dahl, Joe Johannesen, Alek Lean, Karen Christenson, Karoline Christenson and Ole Ostensjoe.<sup>20</sup> Rev. Askevold was the first pastor and served from 1883 to 1889; Rev. A. J. Nervig was pastor from 1889 to 1905; Rev. H. Magelsson, of Walnut Grove, preached during parts of 1905 and 1906; and Rev. O. M. Gullerud, the present pastor, took charge in October, 1906. The society has a fine house of worship and a parsonage erected in 1907 at a cost of nearly \$3000. Its present membership is 171.<sup>21</sup>

St. Mary's Catholic church of Tracy was established in 1884, but services had occasionally been conducted before that date. The first mass was held at the home of Pat Summers about 1880. The church edifice was started in the fall of 1884 and completed the following year. Father Edward Lee, of Minneota, was in charge of the church for a time

and held services once a month. He was succeeded by Father Darche, the first resident priest.<sup>22</sup> The present membership is about 200. The pastor of St. Mary's church also holds services at Walnut Grove.

Services by members of the German Lutheran faith were first held in Tracy in the fall of 1886. A church society was organized at that time with the following named gentlemen and their families as first members: John Reetz, William Wiecks, William Darger, William Schmidt, H. C. Heine, John Selck, William Giffert and Charles Giese. From the date of organization until 1892 services were held once in three weeks in the Congregational church building, conducted by outside pastors. A church building was erected in 1892 and six years later a parsonage was put up, the value of both buildings being about \$2100. Rev. C. W. Heuer was the first pastor and served from 1892 to 1897. He was succeeded by Rev. Ahward, and the latter in 1909 by Rev. Tychsen, the present pastor. Services are now held every other Sabbath. The membership is about twenty-five.

The Swedish Evangelical Lutheran Herlunda church of Tracy was organized December 11, 1888, with the following first members: Peter Magnell and wife, Albert Hedenberg and wife, Samuel Reinhold and wife, Peter Swenson and wife and Charles Dahlin.<sup>23</sup> The church was incorporated in 1889 as a member

<sup>19</sup>The present officers of the Methodist church are C. G. Porter, W. W. Moses, H. W. Elliott, E. J. Evans, E. Blettner, Fred Healy, Russell Donaldson, Carl Wamstead, George Donaldson and Mrs. C. G. Porter.

<sup>20</sup>The first board of trustees of the Norwegian Lutheran church was composed of Jacob A. Jacobson, secretary; Hellek Olson, treasurer; John Tweet, Paul Haugen and Iver Engen.

<sup>21</sup>Affiliated with the Tracy church is the Holand Evangelical Lutheran church, about five and one-half miles southwest of Tracy. It has a membership of 155 and is ministered to by Rev. Gullerud. The Holand church was organized in 1878 by Professor John Ylvesaker with the following members: Andrew Johnson, Andrew Olson, Klemet Helleson, Hans Jacobson, Halvor O. Ericksrud, Henrik Pederson,

John Iverson, Juul Helleson, Martin Olson, Nicolai Nelson, Truls Odegaarden and Tollef Nelson.

<sup>22</sup>Resident priests in charge of St. Mary's church have been Fathers Darche, Mahoney, Sullivan, Smollein, John Gleason, John Byrne and George E. Carlin. The last named was assigned to the charge August 28, 1907.

<sup>23</sup>Others who joined the church before it was incorporated in 1889 were Christian Mohn, Sven J. Bjorkman, Anders A. Busk, Bengt Matteson, Peter Swanson, Swen Nelson and Swan Anderson and their wives. The first deacons of the church were Peter Magnell, Samuel Reinhold and Albert Hedenberg. The first trustees were Charles Dahlin, Samuel Reinhold and Peter Magnell.



Presbyterian

# Tracy's Churches



Swedish Lutheran



Island Church, Monroe



Norwegian Lutheran



German Lutheran Parsonage



German Lutheran



Catholic





of the Augustana Synod of North America. Prior to 1891 the pulpit of the Tracy church was filled by the Balaton pastor and ministers from other charges. The first resident pastor, Rev. B. S. Nystrom, located in Tracy in 1891.<sup>24</sup> A parsonage was built that year and the church was put up in 1892. The value of church property is \$3000. The membership is now ninety-seven communicants and twenty-five children.<sup>25</sup>

The United Norwegian Lutherans have maintained an organization in Tracy since December, 1888. Among those instrumental in its organization were Bernt Johnson, Ole Johnson, Henry Olson and Charles Ostlund. The society has never had a resident pastor and is at present supplied by Rev. K. C. Henderlie, of Canby, who conducts services once every three weeks. The membership is between fifty and sixty.

St. Mark's Episcopal church of Tracy was organized by Rev. Arthur Chard in the late nineties. For a time services were held in the United Norwegian Lutheran church, but the society now has a chapel of its own. The first members of the Episcopal church were Dr. and Mrs. H. M. Workman, Morris Workman, Mrs. L. E. Harvey, M. D. Gibbs, Mrs. Minnie Wiley, Mrs. H. E. Blair, Mrs. Keller, Mrs. C. W. Marks, Mrs. Ralph Yates, Mrs. Fannie Morgan, Mrs. J. Q. McNally, Mrs. Lucy Warren

and Mrs. Charles Riegel. Owing to the small membership the church has never had a resident pastor.<sup>26</sup> Services are now held the second Sabbath of each month by Rev. W. A. Dennis, of Worthington.

#### THE LODGES.

Tracy is the home of a number of worthy secret and fraternal orders. They are the Blue Lodge, Chapter and Order Eastern Star of the Masonic orders, Grand Army of the Republic, Womens Relief Corps, Odd Fellows, Rebekahs, Modern Woodmen, Knights of Pythias, Catholic Order of Foresters, Modern Brotherhood and Royal Neighbors. Besides these are two women's clubs—Current News Club and Sorosis Club.

Tracy Lodge No. 155, A. F. & A. M., the oldest order in the city, was organized under dispensation in July, 1882, with the following first officers: W. M. Todd, W. M.; M. D. Gibbs, S. W.; and Anson Warren, J. W. The charter was granted January 10, 1883, to twelve members.<sup>27</sup> The lodge has ever since been maintained and its membership is now seventy-four.

Late in 1883 members of the order in Tracy, Walnut Grove, Currie and Marshall asked the grand chapter for the establishment of a Royal Arch Mason Chapter at Tracy,<sup>28</sup> and in April, 1884, the local order was organized under dispensation.<sup>29</sup> The charter was

<sup>24</sup>The pastors of the Swedish Lutheran church of Tracy have been as follows: B. S. Nystrom, 1891-94; supplied by students 1894-96; C. J. A. Holmgren, 1896-99; P. E. Fredlund, 1900-02; A. Melin, 1902-06; L. E. Sjolinder, 1906-12.

<sup>25</sup>Among the members of the Swedish Lutheran church, in addition to those mentioned, are John Peterson and wife, Nels E. Pehrson and wife, Andrew Martinson and wife, John August Anderson, Andrew S. Carlson and wife, Peter Neilson, Joel Nelson and wife, John A. Bowman and wife, John F. Fornquist, August Peterson and wife and Henry Peterson.

<sup>26</sup>Among the Episcopal ministers who have supplied the Tracy parish have been Revs. Arthur Chard, TenBroeck, Charles Farrar, J. Holst, Richard Reade, John Plunkett and W. A. Dennis.

<sup>27</sup>The charter members were W. M. Todd, Claude M. Ferro, Anson Warren, E. L. Choate, Henry W. Little,

Frank E. Ketchum, Charles J. Gardner, Samuel S. Truax, James Thomson, Joseph Jones, Myron D. Gibbs and John H. Cutler. Only one of the number is now a resident of Tracy.

<sup>28</sup>Those who signed the application for the dispensation for Bower Chapter, Royal Arch Masons, were John M. Moore, John Moore, Neil McKay, J. F. Remore, Frank Hooker, H. B. Gary, A. C. Forbes, M. E. Mathews, Squire D. How, C. L. Van Fleet, S. M. Gage, M. Sullivan, G. F. Bidwell, Neil Currie, A. T. Crowl, H. M. Workman, John G. Schutz, James P. Corbin, John R. Fitch, W. H. Owens, George W. Thomas, H. G. Humphries, Jr., and E. A. Gove.

<sup>29</sup>Those who served as first officers under dispensation were George F. Bidwell, G. W. Whomes, Neil Currie, M. Sullivan, S. D. How, A. T. Crowl, H. M. Workman, J. F. Remore, S. M. Gage, H. B. Gary, J. G. Schutz and N. McKay.

granted October 14, 1884. The present high officers are J. D. Owens, high priest; Charles C. Richard, king; Howard Gosslee, scribe.

Virginia Chapter No. 15, Order Eastern Star, was instituted February 3, 1885, by Grand Matron Mrs. H. A. Valentine, of Minneapolis, and Grand Patron Willis, of Farmington. It was organized with thirty-five charter members<sup>30</sup> and its membership is now ninety-six.

The second oldest order in Tracy is Joe Hooker Post No. 15, Grand Army of the Republic. It was chartered August 8, 1882, with twenty-two members.<sup>31</sup> The post was disbanded after a short existence, but was reinstated August 18, 1884. It was mustered in at that time by O. E. Gail, of Marshall.<sup>32</sup> The post now has only a few members but an active organization is maintained.

For a time a Sons of Veterans post had an existence. It was formed in November, 1885, and its first officers were C. L. Bohannan, captain; J. G. Willis, first lieutenant; O. J. Rea, second lieutenant.

Joe Hooker Corps No. 65, Womens Relief Corps, has been in existence nearly

twenty-three years. It was chartered December 6, 1889, with twenty-three members.<sup>33</sup> It now has 106 members in good standing.

Chosen Friends Lodge No. 100, Independent Order Odd Fellows, was chartered July 30, 1884, and was instituted August 18 by Past Grandmaster Fahrman, of Winona. It began with six members<sup>34</sup> and now has forty-seven. A Rebekah lodge, auxiliary to the Odd Fellows, also has an active organization.

Tracy Lodge No. 96, Ancient Order United Workmen, was organized June 10, 1887, with only ten members.<sup>35</sup> It has increased until today it has the largest membership of any lodge in Tracy. About one hundred forty members belong to the local order. Its auxiliary, Tracy Lodge No. 8, Degree of Honor, was organized January 10, 1893, with ten members.<sup>36</sup> Its membership is now 120.

Tracy Camp No. 1549, Modern Woodmen of America, came into existence August 18, 1891, with eleven members.<sup>37</sup> The lodge has had a prosperous existence. It now has ninety-five beneficial and one social members.

A lodge of the Knights of Pythias, No. 85, was established September 9,

<sup>30</sup>The charter members of Virginia Chapter were Hattie Bidwell, Eunice Blood, Lillian Blood, Jennie Densil, Louise Gibbs, Myrtle Gibbs, Blanche Grant, Abbie Humason, Mary A. Jones, Louise Klepper, Hannah Lloyd, Evelyn Matson, Grace Nash, Martha Pattridge, Alice Richard, Sarah Segur, Hannah Stafford, Emma Warren, Hannah D. Warren, Amelia Whiting, Minnie Wiley, Josephine Yates, G. F. Bidwell, F. S. Brown, S. M. Gage, M. D. Gibbs, W. D. James, W. D. Jones, W. H. Little, O. L. Pattridge, W. J. Richard, J. R. Segur, F. L. Warren, Homer Whiting, H. M. Workman and Mrs. Virginia Workman, who was the first worthy matron and for whom the chapter was named.

<sup>31</sup>The charter members of Joe Hooker Post were M. D. Gibbs, Ole Rialson, J. L. Craig, M. F. Mills, James Steel, D. W. Underwood, H. N. Joy, James Morgan, J. H. Hitchcox, Samuel Bell, L. Aldrich, W. H. Arnold, J. P. Davis, John Manuel, John Lloyd, David Wilford, Irving R. Wagner, David Campbell, W. J. Henry, Thomas Edwards, J. N. Fitch and F. P. Town.

<sup>32</sup>The first officers at the time of reorganization were I. R. Wagner, W. H. Arnold, John Lloyd, M. D. Gibbs, J. P. Davis, H. N. Joy, J. L. Craig, William Mesler, David Campbell and John Manuel.

<sup>33</sup>The charter members of Joe Hooker Corps were

Mary A. Starr, Elizabeth Beach, Martha Denning, Urania Swartwood, Mary Bohannan, Lizzie Haywood, Minnie M. Bohannan, Addie M. Perry, Mary E. Rice, Emma Webster, Jennie Miller, Mary E. Wagner, Mary C. Mesler, Anna Manuel, Evelyn Matson, Myrtle Gibbs, Louise Gibbs, Cora Howard, Mildred Clark, Maria P. Bohannan, Della Downing, Kate Hughes, Albina Bates.

<sup>34</sup>The charter members of Chosen Friends Lodge and the offices they held were as follows: J. A. Stewart, noble grand; C. L. Bohannan, vice grand; R. E. Hughes, secretary; F. S. Woodruff, treasurer; I. N. Bentley, conductor; W. D. Jones, inside guardian.

<sup>35</sup>The ten charter members of the Tracy Lodge No. 96 were Martin Thurin, N. B. Jacobi, J. R. Segur, A. F. West, B. Hughes, I. E. Segur, J. M. Wardell, W. Rice, E. Woodruff and C. L. Kopp.

<sup>36</sup>Charter members of the Degree of Honor lodge were Mesdames Eunice Clark, Minnie F. Pattridge, Francisella M. Huntington, Cora L. Thurin, Matilda Brauns, Lucinda Craig, Jennie Comrie, Cora A. Hartigan, Angie L. Musser and Delia Nichols.

<sup>37</sup>Charter members of the Woodmen lodge were W. R. Edwards, H. A. Bates, Swan Anderson, J. E. Hennessey, W. H. Bohannan, Allen Bates, J. J. Hartigan and C. L. Bohannan.

1891, with twenty charter members.<sup>38</sup> It has had an active existence and now has a membership of sixty.

W. Michael Court No. 100, Catholic Order of Foresters, was established August 9, 1899, with a small membership.<sup>39</sup> Meetings are seldom held now, although the charter is still retained.

A lodge of the Modern Brotherhood of America was organized December 21, 1899, and is still an active organization with thirty-five members.<sup>40</sup>

A Royal Neighbors lodge was instituted March 10, 1900, with a large membership.<sup>41</sup> It has since held regular meetings and now has a membership of forty-five.

Both the Current News Club and the Sorosis Club are affiliated with the State Federation. The former has a membership of twenty-five and the latter of twenty. The Sorosis Club was organized in 1892 and became a member of the federation in 1900.<sup>42</sup> The Current News Club was organized in 1893 and federated in 1895.<sup>43</sup>

#### THE LIBRARY.

The Tracy public library was established in the winter of 1880-81 and among the first members were F. S. Brown, John Lind, H. W. Little, G. H.

Jessup and others. It is now conducted in a room in the city hall and comprises 1192 volumes. The library is open to the public on Saturday of each week. A fee of twenty-five cents per quarter is charged patrons.

#### THE FIRE DEPARTMENT.

The first steps toward the establishment of fire protection in Tracy were taken in 1885. There being no waterworks system at that time, the principal apparatus of the pioneer fire fighting company were a hook and ladder truck and accessories, which were purchased at a cost of \$383. The hook and ladder company formed at that time was the nucleus of the present fire fighting organizations of Tracy. The members of the pioneer company were Martin Thurin, P. J. Tevlin, J. J. Hennessy, H. M. Workman, Dell Haines and Pearl Rea. Later August Peterson and Frank Blackman became members.

After the big fire of November, 1891, and a waterworks system had been installed, a reorganization was brought about—in the spring of 1892. Besides the members of the old company there were admitted at that time John Jones and A. H. Rowland.

The department is an efficient one

<sup>38</sup>Charter members were John Renninger, C. M. Wilcox, W. M. Fay, Neil Finch, D. H. Evans, F. N. Stewart, F. S. Brown, N. B. Jacobi, F. Hunkins, Willard Rice, L. F. O'Brien, C. S. Shepard, J. E. Doyle, W. J. Walker, George Stahl, P. H. Welch, M. B. Stowell, J. A. Wiley, S. Kinmore and George Norris.

<sup>39</sup>The charter members of the Foresters lodge were John Wiesner, Henry Cain, J. C. Donovan, James G. Behan, J. M. McCabe, Peter Frederick, Frank Ford, Richard M. Hogan, James Donovan, B. W. Odekirk, Walter Dalton and Herman Farrell.

<sup>40</sup>The charter members of the Modern Brotherhood lodge were Joseph R. McElvain, Charlotte McElvain, William A. Dicks, Jacob J. Tofting, Charles P. Hewitt, Augusta A. Schumacher, Knute N. Nylin, Josephine Carter, William S. Carter, J. B. Bens, D. Alton Prouty, Dora Lehman, Nicholas A. Borger, John C. Bong, Henry Jones, John P. Larson, James L. Montgomery, Ida Lehman, Anna M. Hanson, William A. Carter, Peter A. Callahan, August S. Swenson, Swan Anderson, Nellie Nylin, Mary A. Jones, Floyd A. Schaffer, Nellie A. Hewitt, W. P. Newton, Nellie Narveson, Thomas Narveson, Elise Drury, Frank Cary, Elizabeth C. Allen, Della M. Ray and Albert T. Goslee.

<sup>41</sup>The charter members of the Royal Neighbors lodge

were Laura Berdan, Ellen Jensen, Hilda Johnson, William D. James, Emma H. Fatequal, Susie M. James, Mary J. Kahl, H. A. Bates, W. G. Menke, D. A. Prouty, Ella M. Stiles, Nellie Thurston, Honora Donovan, Louise Hennessy, Maisie M. Whitmore, Anna C. Parks, Dencie A. Bates, Elizabeth Dalton, Christina Flink, Marion A. Prouty, H. M. Workman, Ollie Elliott, Mary Burns and Harry Stiles.

<sup>42</sup>The members of the Sorosis Club are Mesdames H. M. Algyer, C. E. Bartlett, F. S. Brown, Don Casselman, C. W. Walbran, Cora Craig, G. W. Donaldson, W. R. Edwards, B. L. English, G. A. Fitch, G. H. Goodwin, Cora Gould, Mildred Hunter, W. D. James, J. J. Laughlin, W. H. Valentine, D. T. McArthur, G. W. Norris, C. B. Pattridge, C. G. Porter, J. A. Rickert and T. H. Webb. The associate members are Mesdames Hoidale, Steel and Lien.

<sup>43</sup>The members of the Current News Club are Mesdames Libbie Babcock, C. O. Brauns, D. H. Evans, J. Finnegan, J. E. Filkins, Neil Finch, Louise Gibbs, C. Callaghan, E. Herzog, E. B. Korn, E. S. Miller, Julia McDonough, Harriet McCallister, George Nehls, Lester Fitch, L. K. Prouty, Nels Pehrson, J. R. Segur, Lee Swift, H. F. Seiter, George Tracy, Ross Main and Helena Thurin.

and thoroughly equipped. In its equipment are two hose carts, a hose reel, a hook and ladder truck, and nearly 3000 feet of hose. The department is maintained in the city hall. There are seventeen active members. The present chief is G. E. Schmidt.

The Tracy Firemans Relief Association has over \$2000 in its treasury. H. M. Workman is president of the association, Jacob Rickert secretary, and A. H. Rowland treasurer.

#### THE BANKS.

Three banking houses are conducted at Tracy, the First National Bank, Citizens State Bank, and Tracy State Bank. The first named is the successor of the old Commerce Bank; the two state banks are of more recent origin.

Tracy's first bank was a private institution, the Bank of Tracy, founded by G. H. Jessup in the early eighties. Later W. O. Musser became a partner in the business. The bank was a popular institution, built up an enormous business, and had a long life. Late in 1904 Mr. Jessup died, the affairs of the bank were found to be in a bad way, and the institution was closed. Upon its ruins a new bank was started, founded for the most part by depositors of the defunct bank.

The second banking house of Tracy was the Commerce Bank, established as a private institution in the eighties by J. E. Evans and J. P. Davis. The Commerce Bank was succeeded on August 1, 1891, by the First State Bank, it having been purchased by J. S. Tucker, D. T. McArthur, E. W. D. Holway and others. Upon the organization of the state bank Mr. Tucker became president and Mr. Holway vice president.

On February 21, 1895, the First State Bank was reorganized and became the

First National Bank. The organizers were Martin Thurin, John A. Hunter, John D. Owens, W. R. Edwards, Neil Finch, D. T. McArthur, Ben Bear, E. W. D. Holway, C. J. Weiser, Solomon Loeb and J. S. Tucker. The first officers were as follows: J. S. Tucker, president; E. W. D. Holway, vice president; D. T. McArthur, cashier; and L. J. Hunter, assistant cashier. Mr. McArthur became president in 1901 and was at the head of the bank until his death on August 26, 1911.

The First National Bank moved to its present commodious quarters at the corner of Main and Third Streets in April, 1898. From a small beginning the institution has worked its way to the front and is one of the prosperous financial institutions of Lyon county. It has a capital stock of \$50,000 and a surplus of \$10,000. In 1911 the deposits averaged about \$400,000 and the total resources were about a half million dollars. The present officers are C. J. Weiser, president; Ben Bear and E. Herzog, vice presidents; H. M. Algyer, cashier; L. Houston, assistant cashier.

The Citizens State Bank began business September 21, 1904, with the following first officers: J. M. Wardell, president; George E. Dutton, vice president; H. F. Seiter, cashier. The business is conducted in the building at the corner of Third and Morgan Streets formerly occupied by the Bank of Tracy. The bank has a capital stock of \$25,000 and a surplus of \$5000. From September, 1907, to September, 1911, the deposits increased from \$77,033.02 to \$248,453.25.

The present officers of the Citizens State Bank are J. M. Wardell, president; George E. Dutton, vice president; H. F. Seiter, second vice president; J. A. Rickert, cashier; L. F. Nelson, assistant

cashier. The directors are S. P. Hicks, George E. Dutton, H. J. Pattridge, J. M. Wardell, D. H. Evans, Neil Finch, H. F. Seiter, A. M. Nash and W. H. Valentine.

The Tracy State Bank opened its doors January 2, 1905, with a capital stock of \$20,000. It occupies a building put up for the purpose in the fall of 1904. D. A. McLarty served as president during the first year of its existence. The present officers and directors are as follows: J. R. Fitch, president; D. A. McLarty, vice president; L. J. Fitch, cashier; A. Swoffer and C. S. Orwall.

#### MANUFACTORY.

An institution that has aided materially in the progress of Tracy is the Tracy Cement Tile Company, manufacturers of tile, building blocks and brick. It is the successor of the Tracy Cement Drain Tile, Brick and Block Company, which began business in 1905 and which was owned by H. F. Seiter, D. H. Evans, Ole Ophiem, J. R. Segur and F. G.

Segur. The company was reorganized and incorporated, with a capital stock of \$50,000, under the present name on January 1, 1911. The stockholders are the same as of the original company and the officers are D. H. Evans, president; H. F. Seiter, secretary and treasurer; Ole Ophiem, manager.

F. M. Slover, a practical tiler, and a corps of surveyors are employed by the company. During the summer months between twenty-five and thirty men are employed and the plant is operated during the winter months with a reduced force. The capacity of the plant is from 2000 to 4000 tile per day, dependent upon the size. It is one of the largest cement manufacturing plants in the state and is equipped with modern machinery, being operated by electricity. A large stone crusher is operated and there are two live-steam curing tunnels. Besides the manufacturing department, another branch of the enterprise is contracting tile laying, surveying, etc.



## CHAPTER XII.

### MINNEOTA—1875-1912.

**I**N POINT of size Minneota is Lyon county's third town and it is also one of the older villages of the county. As a business point it also takes high rank, for it draws trade from an exceptionally fine farming country. Its trade territory is large, extending northward into Yellow Medicine county and westward into Lincoln county. It is a substantially built little city and presents an attractive appearance.

Minneota is in the northwestern part of the county, on the Chicago & Northwestern railroad. The platted village is on the southeast quarter of section 25, Eidsvold township. Its elevation above sea level is 1179 feet. The population when the 1910 census was taken was 819.

So early as 1871 settlers located in the northwest corner township in close proximity to the site of the present village. Others came the following year, and in 1872 a postoffice named Nordland was established for their benefit. It was located on section 26, just west of the site of the village, and H. D. Frink, a homesteader, was the postmaster. That office was the predecessor of the Minneota office and Mr. Frink remained in charge until it was moved to the present location in 1875. Mr. Frink

also established a little store at his home in 1873 for the convenience of his neighbors, and about the same time Christian Lee started a blacksmith shop, which he conducted near the Frink store for two years. Mr. Frink operated his store only about one year. The site of these activities was sometimes referred to as Nordland, after the postoffice, but more frequently as Upper Yellow Medicine Crossing, from the fact that there the newly constructed railroad crossed the Yellow Medicine river.<sup>1</sup> The importance of the little hamlet on section 26 was added to in 1874 when N. W. L. Jager opened a store there.

It seemed probable that Nordland would gradually develop into a little village, but this was not destined to occur at its original location. The store and blacksmith shop were on the lands of homesteaders and the railroad company decided to locate a station on its own land. On September 22, 1875, a construction train, carrying material and a score or more workmen, was run out to the Yellow Medicine crossing and a sidetrack was laid on the southwest quarter of section 25, land which had been secured under the land grant. At the same time preparations were made for building a warehouse at that point

<sup>1</sup>The Marshall Prairie Schooner on January 29, 1874, referred to the place as follows: "Upper Yellow Medicine Crossing is a postoffice and store located on

Yellow Medicine river at the crossing of the Winona & St. Peter railroad, fifteen miles northwest of Marshall."

by the Van Dusen Company, in time to care for the season's crop.

This improvement warranted the belief that the railroad company would establish a station there and that in time a village would be founded. Before the season closed a few persons located at the new site, established business enterprises, and the new place succeeded to the name Nordland. Mr. Jager moved his store from section 26 and was the first inhabitant. He had only a small stock of goods and housed them in a little shanty he erected close to the river. The warehouse was erected and early in November Ole H. Dahl located there as manager. At the same time that gentleman opened a little store, carrying hardware and drugs.<sup>2</sup> The third business man also came in November, 1875, only a few days after Messrs. Jager and Dahl. He was Thomas D. Seals, who moved a store from Marshfield, in Lincoln county,<sup>3</sup> and opened the second general store. Mr. Seals has ever since been engaged in business in the village.

In December, 1875, Mr. Jager succeeded Mr. Frink as postmaster of Nordland and early in 1876 it was moved from its original location on section 26 to the village and conducted in Mr. Jager's store. At the time there was talk of changing the name of the office to Eidsvold, but that was not done.<sup>4</sup> A Nordland correspondent to

the county paper in January, 1876, said: "Our new town in Eidsvold is progressing finely. Three store buildings and two warehouses have been erected since October last. Although the population is very small yet, our business men are both intelligent and industrious." The same correspondent gave a list of business houses as follows: N. W. L. Jager, dry goods and groceries; O. H. Dahl, hardware, lumber and grain; Dr. T. D. Seals, general store.

During the summer of 1876 the Nordland railroad station was established and a depot erected. The company also platted the village, the survey having been made by Arthur Jacobi prior to August 5. Albert Keep, as president of the Winona & St. Peter Railroad Company, certified to the plat August 26, 1876. Ten blocks were included in the Nordland plat. The streets running parallel with the railroad were named First, Second and Third and those at right angles were named Washington, Adams, Jefferson, Madison and Monroe.<sup>5</sup>

The platting of the site did not result in any great rush for town lots. There was practically no improvement during 1876, the county paper on January 1, 1877, stating that the village consisted of three stores and two warehouses. Likewise, there was little advancement in 1877, but the following year was one of great prosperity in Lyon

<sup>2</sup>"Ole Dahl has lately opened a store at Yellow Medicine Crossing for the sale of hardware, drugs, etc. He is buying wheat there also."—Marshall Messenger, November 26, 1875.

<sup>3</sup>"Dr. Seals has moved his store from Marshfield to Yellow Medicine Crossing."—Marshall Messenger, December 10, 1875.

<sup>4</sup>The following have served as postmasters of Nordland (later Minneota): H. D. Frink, 1872-75; N. W. L. Jager, 1875-87; C. P. Kenyon, 1887-90; Pauline Lee, 1890-95; James McGinn, 1895-97; Andrew Winger, 1897-01; G. S. Sigurdson, 1901-03; G. B. Bjornson, 1903-12. The office was raised from fourth- to third-class January 1, 1912.

Three rural delivery routes are operated from the Minneota office, having been established as follows: No. 1, September 1, 1903, K. Mohn, carrier; No. 2, June 1, 1904, L. S. Teigland, carrier; No. 3, June 1, 1904, O. J. Moe, carrier.

<sup>5</sup>Additions to the original Nordland plat have been made as follows:

First Railway, by Winona & St. Peter Railroad Company, August 18, 1881; surveyed by Thomas F. Nicholl.

Second Railway, by Winona & St. Peter Railroad Company, May 2, 1892; surveyed by John T. Price.

Gilbertson's, by Aslaug Gilbertson, July 2, 1892; surveyed by C. L. Van Fleet.

G. A. Dalmann's, by G. A. Dalmann, August 24, 1893; surveyed by O. H. Sterk.

Third Railway, by Winona & St. Peter Railroad Company, May 20, 1897; surveyed by John T. Price.

Fourth Railway, by Winona & St. Peter Railroad Company, August 8, 1900; surveyed by J. C. W. Cline.

Fifth Railway, by Winona & St. Peter Railroad Company, September 20, 1902; surveyed by W. H. Hill.

William Anderson's, by William Anderson, September 7, 1906; surveyed by O. H. Sterk.

county" and the little hamlet made great strides forward.

The change in the name of the post-office from Nordland to Minneota (an Indian word signifying "big water") occurred in February, 1878. The change was not brought about without much bickering, jealousy and hard feelings. Owing to the manner of selecting the name great excitement prevailed and enmities were made that took years to overcome. The name Minneota was suggested by T. D. Seals.<sup>6</sup>

The big immigration of 1878 and the rapid development of Lyon county during that year brought many improvements to Minneota. A correspondent writing in June said: "Our town is building up very rapidly and promises to be second to none west of New Ulm

before fall." At the close of the year a Minneota resident wrote: "One year ago Minneota had only two or three business houses; now it has eleven or twelve, one elevator and two ware-houses."

One of the improvements of 1878 was the establishment of a large general store by Coats & Davidson, who erected the finest building in the village. Van Dusen & Company put up an elevator, operated by steam power, of which G. A. Jacobson had charge. John Carlen opened a hardware and machinery store. G. A. Jacobson and J. C. Peterson opened a lumber yard and dealt in farm machinery. Nels Erickson established the Minneota House and later engaged in the dry goods and grocery business. J. J. Wallin opened a furniture store.

<sup>6</sup>A Minneota correspondent to the Marshall Messenger of February 22, 1878, told of the campaign for the change in name and the resultant excitement over the selection, as follows:

"About three or four weeks ago two petitions were put in circulation to solicit signers for the purpose of changing the name of the station and postoffice at Nordland, one for the name Jager, the other for Minneota. When Minneota had about twenty-five and Jager seventy-five signers, dissatisfaction was manifested by the people with both names. The parties working for Minneota gave it up and called a meeting to get a new name. Horten was adopted by a large majority. Two petitions were made, signed by eighty persons in the vicinity of Nordland, and one was sent to Washington and the other to the railroad company in Chicago. Another party held a meeting but it resulted in nothing.

"Thursday, February 14, there came a report from Washington, stating that the name Nordland was changed to Minneota. When this was reported from the postoffice Dr. Seals borrowed an anvil, furnished the powder, treated with cigars, and held a grand celebration for Minneota. Only a few were present and there was little excitement at the time, of course.

"How this extraordinary trick happened is yet a mystery. The petition for Minneota is still here and nobody confesses to having sent such name to Washington. Somebody has done the play but who it is we all want to know. Two ways are suspected. Someone might have sent a single letter to Washington or copied and picked up names from other petitions without any authority. If this is so, it must be revealed, for there is much excitement and agitation among the people in the whole community.

"We have asked our best scholar and professor in the Indian language about the definition of Minneota and he declared it was an Indian name and that it will be very useful as an advertisement for Indian trade."

Nearly twenty-nine years later Dr. T. D. Seals, at whose instance the name Minneota had been selected, gave the history of the incident. It was published in the Minneota Mascot in December, 1906, and was as follows:

"In the fall of 1875 or early in 1876 I wrote to my uncle, J. W. Durr, a New York banker, and asked him to see Senator Straight and request that official to procure a change of name for this little hamlet, which at that time was called Nordland and was not large enough to cut much figure in the commercial world.

I suggested the name Minneota, which, as you all know, is an Indian name and means 'much water.' My request was granted and our little collection of shanties was officially designated Minneota.

"While this matter was pending at the national capital some of our local promoters became impatient and wanted to name the place themselves. Of course they could not agree on a name, each one having some pet cognomen which he wanted to bestow upon the future metropolis. O. L. Orsen wanted Horten, Ole Peterson came to the front with Oslo, and the friends of N. W. L. Jager wanted Jagersville—Jager and I were pretty much the whole cheese in those days.

"Finally the advocates of these different names got together and decided to hold an election and let the people decide what name they wanted. This was done, but before the polls closed John Swenson drove in on his little mule, carrying a sack of mail. This mail contained a letter from Washington, which brought the local authorities notice that the new-born city had been officially designated Minneota. This put a damper on the proceedings and excitement ran high for a while.

"Just as the tellers were ready to count the votes, which had been deposited in the cigar box, duly guarded during the day by reliable officials, I am told Lewis Anderson marched into the polling place, seized the ballot box, and made his escape before anyone had time to raise voice or hand in restraint. He walked out into the street, where he smashed the box and trampled the ballots into the mud—and to this day no one knows which faction was victorious at the first election ever held in the village of Minneota. There are only a few of the old timers left, but we dare say that they all remember that election. All were intensely interested and for many weeks the election was the talk of the neighborhood.

"I remember the incident as plainly as if it were yesterday. Of course, there is reason for my recalling it so vividly. When the mail brought the news that the name Minneota had been selected at Washington, O. L. Orsen made the remark that there was evidently among us a wolf in sheep's clothing—referring to the man who had, without consulting anyone, fastened this name upon the town and thus completely checkmated the advocates of the other three names. I did not know Mr. Orsen then as I do now, and for three days I did not venture out of my store. After that the excitement gradually died down and I began to muster up courage to speak to my fellow-townsmen. But for a time I was a scared man."

William Kitzinger erected the second hotel, the Tremont House. Thor Rye, a tinsmith, engaged in business. Samuel Leland became the village blacksmith. Sheldrew & Reinertson opened a photograph gallery. N. W. L. Jager and T. D. Seals, the pioneer business men, conducted their stores with increased facilities.

In June, 1879, Minneota's business houses comprised four general stores, two hardware stores, two shoe shops, two hotels, two blacksmith shops and three elevators. The village then boasted of a new school house. Among the new business men were Sidney Fuller, blacksmith shop; T. Hanson, variety store; George Duffy, livery barn; and Peter Pickles, meat market.

A few new stores and shops were opened in 1880. Among the new enterprises was a lumber yard established by Youmans Brothers & Hodgins, of which John Dobson became local manager. The census of 1880 gave the little hamlet a population of 113.

Although only a few over a hundred persons were living in the village proper, they were an ambitious few and in 1880 asked for incorporation. A bill authorizing Minneota to begin local government was passed by the Legislature and approved by the governor January 21, 1881. The first village election was held February 7, and two days later the Village Council was organized. The corporate limits, as determined by the Council February 9, 1881, were all of section 25, the north half of section 36, the northeast quarter of section 35, and

the east half of section 26, all in Eidsvold township.

Following is the roster of village officials from date of incorporation to the present time:<sup>7</sup>

1881—President, G. A. Jacobson; trustees, J. C. Peterson, N. W. L. Jager, John Carlen; recorder, A. D. Davidson; treasurer, J. H. Frost; justice, S. R. Kentner;<sup>8</sup> constable, William Davidson.

1882—President, G. A. Jacobson; trustees, N. W. L. Jager, Anton Winter, J. H. Frost; recorder, A. D. Davidson; treasurer, T. D. Seals; constable, Sven Peterson.<sup>9</sup>

1883—President, J. C. Peterson; trustees, Anton Winter, J. H. Frost, J. N. Lee; recorder, J. S. Renninger.

1884—President, J. C. Peterson; trustees, J. H. Frost, J. N. Lee, Thor Rye; recorder, J. S. Renninger; treasurer, William Davidson; justice, J. J. Dobson; constable, William Kitzinger.

1885—President, J. C. Peterson; trustees, F. Winters, A. B. Thompson, S. B. Leland; recorder, Frank Johnson; treasurer, William Davidson.

1886—President, J. C. Peterson; trustees, William Kitzinger, Anton Winter, S. B. Leland; recorder, Frank Johnson; treasurer, William Davidson; justice, S. E. Sanderson; constable, H. O. Hanson.

1887—President, J. N. Lee; trustees, G. A. Dalmann, G. C. Mantel, A. L. Rye; recorder, Frank Johnson; treasurer, William Davidson; justice, S. O. Brenna.

1888—President, Thomas Hanson; trustees, G. C. Mantel, S. B. Leland, G. S. Sigurdson; recorder, Frank Johnson; treasurer, N. W. L. Jager; justice, T. D. Seals; constable, P. Ferguson.

1889—President, C. J. Wimer; trustees, E. B. Leland, Anton Winter, C. Schram; recorder, Frank Johnson; treasurer, N. W. L. Jager; justice, M. Ferguson; constable, H. O. Hanson.

1890—President, C. J. Wimer; trustees, Anton Winter, C. Schram, P. Ferguson; recorder, Frank Johnson; treasurer, N. W. L. Jager; justices, T. D. Seals, S. E. Sanderson.

1891—President, N. W. L. Jager; trustees, C. J. Wimer, E. K. Kjørness, Syvert Most; recorder, Frank Johnson; treasurer, J. H. Frost; constable, H. O. Hanson.

1892—President, N. W. L. Jager; trustees, E. K. Kjørness, E. I. Leland, Frank Johnson; recorder, Syvert Most; treasurer, J. H. Frost; justices, S. Hognason, Oscar Rye; constables, S. P. Heggdahl, H. O. Hanson.

1893—President, P. O. French; trustees, C. A.

1896—For, 43; against, 100.

1897—Against license by 22 majority.

1898—For, 56; against, 63.

1899—For, 91; against, 50.

1900—For, 79; against, 56.

Since 1900 the matter has been left in the hands of the Council, and except the years 1901 and 1904 license has been granted each year.

<sup>7</sup>Resigned and on November 22, 1881, John Dobson elected.

<sup>9</sup>Did not qualify and William Davidson appointed.

<sup>7</sup>In 1879 the people of Eidsvold township declared in favor of licensed saloons by a vote of 42 to 19. After the incorporation of Minneota license was granted by the Council each year without the question having been submitted to vote up to 1891. From 1891 to 1900, inclusive, the license question was voted on under the local option law, with the following results:

1891—Against license by 18 majority.

1892—Against license.

1893—For license by 2 majority.

1894—For, 59; against, 58.

1895—For, 70; against, 61.

Walker, E. I. Leland, G. S. Sigurdson; recorder, St. Gilbertson; constable, E. B. Leland.

1894—President, M. Ferguson; trustees, C. P. Kenyon, T. N. Myhre, Henry Moe; recorder, St. Gilbertson; treasurer, James Steels; justices, P. O. French, T. D. Seals; constable, Hugh Bowden, Jr.

1895—President, H. Champlin; trustees, M. Ferguson, D. M. Walrath, J. C. Peterson; recorder, St. Gilbertson; treasurer, E. I. Leland; constable, Joseph Alexson.

1896—President, M. Ferguson; trustees, B. Jones, T. N. Wyhre, D. C. Pierce; recorder, St. Gilbertson; treasurer, E. I. Leland; justices, P. O. French, T. D. Seals; constable, L. B. Stowell.

1897—President, G. A. Dalmann; trustees, D. C. Pierce, E. I. Leland, T. N. Myhre; recorder, St. Gilbertson; treasurer, C. M. Gislason; constable, O. J. Moe.

1898—President, H. N. Dahl; trustees, H. O. Hanson, E. B. Leland, S. A. Anderson; recorder, St. Gilbertson; treasurer, O. L. Dorr; justices, P. O. French, G. B. Bjornson; constable, L. B. Stowell.

1899—President, H. N. Dahl; trustees, A. J. Kile, S. A. Anderson, M. Ferguson; recorder, St. Gilbertson; treasurer, O. L. Dorr; assessor, L. T. Thompson; constables, W. J. Salmon, O. J. Moe.

1900—President, H. N. Dahl; trustees, M. Ferguson, S. A. Anderson, A. J. Kile; recorder, St. Gilbertson; treasurer, O. L. Dorr; assessor, L. T. Thompson; justices, G. B. Bjornson, H. O. Hanson.

1901—President, H. N. Dahl; trustees, S. A. Anderson, M. Ferguson, H. O. Hanson; recorder, M. E. Drake; treasurer, O. L. Dorr; justice, T. D. Seals; constable, O. J. Moe.

1902—President, St. Gilbertson; trustees, H. O. Hanson, S. A. Anderson, K. E. Kjorness; recorder, M. E. Drake; treasurer, O. L. Dorr; assessor, N. A. Anderson; justice, P. O. French.

1903—President, St. Gilbertson; trustees, S. A. Anderson, H. O. Hanson, F. A. Kingsley; recorder, M. E. Drake; treasurer, O. L. Dorr; assessor, O. J. Moe; justice, T. D. Seals; constables, W. J. Salmon, George Benson.

1904—President, St. Gilbertson; trustees, H. O. Hanson, S. A. Anderson, George Geiwitz; recorder, F. A. Kingsley; treasurer, O. L. Dorr.

1905—President, St. Gilbertson; trustees, W. A. Crowe, George Geiwitz, S. A. Anderson; recorder, G. C. Lee; treasurer, O. L. Dorr; assessor, L. J. Jerpak.

1906—President, St. Gilbertson; trustees, S. A. Anderson, W. A. Crowe, George Geiwitz; recorder, G. C. Lee; treasurer, O. L. Dorr; assessor, L. J. Jerpak; justice, P. O. French.

1907—President, James McGinn; trustees, T. F. Walsh, E. T. Sanderson, H. J. Mackechnie; recorder, D. C. Pierce; treasurer, O. L. Dorr; assessor, L. J. Jerpak.

1908—President, P. O. French; trustees, G. O. Funden, J. F. Finnegan, H. E. Knutson;

recorder, D. C. Pierce; treasurer, O. L. Dorr; assessor, A. J. Kelley; justice, P. M. Berg; constable, W. J. Salmon.

1909—President, P. O. French; trustees, H. H. Groesinger, J. F. Finnegan, George Benson; recorder, A. B. Gislason; treasurer, O. L. Dorr; assessor, L. J. Jerpak; justice, James McGinn; constables, W. H. Loomis, O. H. Werpy.

1910—President, H. N. Dahl; trustees, H. G. Johnson, A. J. Kelley, George Benson; recorder, A. B. Gislason; treasurer, O. L. Dorr; assessor, P. O. French; justice, T. M. Burke.

1911—President, W. H. Deen; trustees, George Benson, G. O. Funden, T. P. Culshaw; recorder, H. G. Johnson; treasurer, L. M. Lerwick; assessor, H. N. Dahl; constables, W. J. Salmon, O. H. Werpy.

1912—President, W. H. Deen; trustees, George Benson, T. P. Culshaw, G. O. Funden; recorder, H. G. Johnson; treasurer, L. M. Lerwick; justices, P. O. French, G. W. Livermore.

Minneota's progress during the early eighties was substantial. Its growth was proportionate with the settlement and development of the surrounding country and was augmented by being made the center of the Catholic colony established by Bishop Ireland. The location of the colony of Icelanders in the vicinity also added to the growth of the village.<sup>10</sup> In the spring of 1882 the following lines of business were represented in Minneota: One bank, five general stores, two hardware stores, two hotels, three saloons, one drug store, one wagon shop, two blacksmith shops, two shoe shops, one harness shop, one livery stable, two lumber yards, one grain elevator, two grain warehouses, one feed mill, two dealers in agricultural implements, one lime house, one coal dealer, one meat market, one church and parsonage, and one school house.

A directory published in 1884 listed the following:

Davidson Brothers, Bank of Minneota.

N. W. L. Jager, general merchandise.

T. Hanson, dry goods and groceries.

T. D. Seals, dry goods and groceries.

Ole O. Brenna, dry goods and groceries.

Hanson Brothers, hardware, furniture, machinery, livery.

<sup>10</sup>"A large portion of the immigrants to this county for the past three or four years settled about Minneota, and as a consequence the country tributary to that town is the most thickly settled of any in the county. Minneota is constantly realizing benefits of various

kinds on account of this acquisition, and the growth of that village, though not particularly rapid or spasmodic, is steady and all its business men are on the road to prosperity."—Marshall News-Messenger, March 20, 1885.

Thor Rye, hardware and tinware.  
 Frost & Peterson, groceries.  
 Wimer Brothers, drugs.  
 Dennis Cahil, groceries.  
 George Mantel, shoes.  
 Anton Winter, harness.  
 T. D. Seals, meat market.  
 G. A. Dalmann, feed mill.  
 C. P. Kenyon, farm machinery.  
 P. Ferguson, hotel.  
 S. B. Leland, blacksmith.  
 Arney Rye, blacksmith.  
 Swend Peterson, saloon.  
 W. Hester, saloon.  
 J. C. Peterson, agent Laird-Norton Lumber Company.  
 William Davidson, agent L. C. Porter Elevator Company.  
 G. N. Lee, agent Van Dusen & Company, elevator.  
 J. R. Smith, depot agent and telegraph operator.  
 Doctors Wimer, Renninger and Sanderson.

Minneota had attained a population of 325 when the census of 1890 was taken. At the beginning of that year the following were engaged in business and the professions, according to a list prepared by the Marshall Reporter: Ferguson Brothers, groceries, shoes and agricultural machinery; G. S. Sigurdson, who managed the Verzlunarfelag Islendinga, a co-operative general store; Thomas Hanson, general store, warehouse and bank; T. D. Seals, general merchandise store; N. W. L. Jager, the pioneer store; James Steel, the Bank of Minneota; R. M. Addison, a branch hardware store; George Mantel, grocery and shoe store; G. A. Dalmann, grocery store; Kile & Winter, harness shop; C. J. Wimer, drug store and stationery; Olof Rye, jewelry store; Mary Rye, tin shop, stoves and furniture; S. B. Leland, wagon and blacksmith shop; William Kitzinger, Tremont Hotel; Syvert Most, shoe shop; J. C. Peterson, who had charge of the Laird-Norton lumber

yards; E. B. Leland, manager of the L. C. Porter Milling Company's elevator; E. I. Leland, manager of the Marfield & Company's elevator and coal yard; B. Jones, meat market and wood yard; Winona & St. Peter Railroad Company, land office; W. A. Crowe, saloon; H. P. Ferguson, saloon; V. Anderson and A. C. Heiret, draymen; C. P. Kenyon, postmaster; Dr. Sanderson, physician.

During the early nineties, prior to the panic and the beginning of the hard times period, Minneota made steady progress. The year 1892 was an exceptionally progressive one and many improvements were made.<sup>11</sup> For a few years in the middle nineties the village was at a standstill because of the prevailing financial stringency. The population was 512 in 1895.

Minneota has progressed steadily during the last fifteen years of its history and has taken its place as one of the up-to-date, wide-awake little villages of Southwestern Minnesota. It has a number of public improvements, including a waterworks system installed in 1901. The population had increased to 777 in 1900, and five years later it was 954. The census of 1910 showed a slight falling off, the enumeration disclosing a population of 819.

#### THE SCHOOLS.

The Minneota public school system has grown from humble beginnings. The first school was taught in the railroad section house in 1875 by Leora Coleman,<sup>12</sup> and that building was used

record as a promising town."—Marshall Reporter, August 18, 1892.

<sup>11</sup>We were somewhat surprised last week on a visit to Minneota to see the marked improvement the village has made this season. About twenty new buildings have been erected, some of them expensive residences. Several new two-story business houses have also sprung up, and a four-story roller mill is being built by a stock company. It will have a capacity of about 100 barrels a day, with power and room for more when needed. A state bank has also been organized and Minneota is making a creditable

<sup>12</sup>Among the teachers who have had charge of the Minneota schools are the following, only the superintendents being listed since the schools were graded: Fannie Erskine, Mrs. P. O. French, C. J. Wimer, P. O. French, O. C. Pierce, Mrs. C. J. Wimer, C. O. Anderson, C. C. Wilson, J. P. Byrne, F. F. Buckley, C. A. Bradley, B. A. Wallace, L. L. Cornwell, J. J.



## Minneota Scenes





as the school house until 1879. The great progress made by the village in 1878 brought a demand for better school facilities, and in October of that year the school board was authorized by the voters to issue bonds to the amount of \$1200 to build a school house. This was done and in the spring of 1879 a school house was completed.

In 1893 a four-room brick school house was erected, bonds to the amount of \$6000 having been voted for the purpose the year before. Seven years later the voters of the district authorized the expenditure of \$5000 more to provide additional school facilities.

The Minneota schools were organized under the independent district plan May 1, 1906, and a little later a high school course was added. The first class was graduated in 1904.<sup>13</sup>

About 300 pupils are now enrolled in the Minneota schools. Prof. Arnold Gloor is superintendent of the schools and the following are the present instructors: Olive Norgaard, principal; Johanna Hognason, science teacher; Bessie M. Jackson, Elizabeth Nicholson, Margaret Lambert, Lillian Watkins, Anna Welch, Frieda Gilbertson, Dora V. Askdal and Jennie M. Frost. The Board of Education is composed of the following named gentlemen: G. B. Bjornson, president; A. B. Gislason, secretary; H. J. Tillemans, treasurer; L. M. Lerwick, James McGinn and H. N. Dahl.

Jensrud, F. E. Sprout, T. R. Cole, E. T. Fitch, C. A. Gregory, F. P. McComb and Arnold Gloor.

<sup>13</sup>The following have been graduated from the Minneota High School:

1904—Marth Hognason, F. G. Byron Hognason, Newel H. Dahl, Jennie M. Frost.

1905—Bjarni Anderson, Agnes D. Leland, Sigurd Peterson.

1906—Margaret Mary Langan, Baldur Jonathan Dalmann, William Allan Crowe, Amanda Klevan, June Louise Wimer, Harry Adolph Crowe, Theodore Bernhard Voog, Maud Beatrice Leland, Edward George Geiwitz.

1907—Amy T. Dahl, Winnie J. Johnson, Christine V. Dalmann, Eleen G. Eastman.

#### THE CHURCHES.

Five active church societies are maintained in Minneota, namely, the Norwegian Lutheran, Catholic, Icelandic Lutheran, Baptist and Evangelical Lutheran. All have houses of worship and hold services regularly.

The first religious services in the village were conducted in the Nordland section house by Rev. J. Berg, a Norwegian Lutheran pastor. Under the direction of Rev. Berg, the Immanuel Congregation of the Norwegian Synod was organized and the pioneer preacher occupied the pulpit for a short time. He was succeeded by Rev. Knute Thorsfonson, who preached once a month for about two years. The next pastor was Rev. Olof Hoel, of Canby, who served until 1892. Rev. Andrew Kleven had charge of the church from 1892 to 1909, and Rev. E. J. Henderlie has been pastor since 1910. The Norwegian Lutheran church of Minneota has about 450 members. The church trustees are Henry Furgeson, Ole Esping, H. O. Skogen, N. B. Nelson and Louis Anderson.

The Catholic colony of Minneota was opened to settlers in the spring of 1880. Previous to that year His Grace Archbishop John Ireland, then coadjutor bishop of St. Paul, had begun to advocate the cause of Catholic colonization. By means of lectures delivered in the middle and eastern states and through his writings in the public press of Canada, Ireland, England, Belgium and

1908—Jonina P. Jokull, Frieda Gilbertson, Melville Sanderson, Thora Strand, Olive R. Olafson, Bessie Winnifred Ferguson, Mabelle Irene Leland, Elvira C. Josephson, Victor C. Josephson, Dora V. Askdal.

1909—Eva F. Wimer, Ellen Askdal.

1910—G. Arthur Larson, Fred A. Geiwitz, Nellie B. Dorr, Carvel E. Erickson, Bjorn Winger, Petrene S. Johnson, Magnhild Orsen, Cora A. Geiwitz, Leslie V. Dahl, Susan A. Mullen, Luella B. Hanson.

1911—Ella Johnson, Ida Jokull, Patsy McGinn, Reuben Pennington, Mary Wallin.

1912—Stella A. Cassidy, Hazel L. Dale, Johanna C. Gudmundson, Pauline S. Sigvaldson, June Yeo.

Holland, he made known to Catholic multitudes the possibilities of a healthy and happy home on the virgin plains and amid the undeveloped resources of the big and bountiful state of Minnesota. He was acquainted with the dire distress of the downtrodden masses in the congested districts of large cities. He knew that in lands beyond the sea good men starved in slavery and fear, and, like another Moses, he determined to lead them from their environments to the light and freedom and the future peace and prosperity which he foresaw would reward their labors in this Land of Promise.

With prophetic foresight His Grace also realized that if the Catholic church was to grow and keep pace with the growth and progress of Minnesota, it could only be by the incoming of Catholic settlers from other lands. Therefore, for the future happiness of the people, for the advancement in these parts of the faith he professed, he heralded the call to Minnesota throughout the world. In answer to that call many came, and those who came and persevered through the privations of pioneer days have good reason to bless the hour they came and the great prelate whose voice had called them hither.

The first Catholic settlers began to arrive in the summer and fall of 1880, and Father M. J. Hanly was appointed to act as their pastor and to help in locating them on their lands.<sup>14</sup> He said mass in the Minneota depot and in the old log house west of Minneota where

he resided with a number of the colonists until their homes were built. Father Hanly was succeeded by Father L. Cornelius in August, 1881, and soon after his appointment he set about building the church and parish house. The church was dedicated under the name of St. Edward the Confessor, owing to the fact that many of the first colonists were English or had lived some time in England.

Father Cornelius went to Europe in the winter of 1882 to promote the cause of colonization amongst the Belgians and Hollanders and he returned in the spring of 1883 with many colonists. Most of these settled on the lands seven miles east of Minneota, and, having received a priest of their own nationality, they originated the present parish of Ghent.<sup>15</sup> Father Cornelius was succeeded by Father Edward Lee in March, 1883. Father Lee was pastor seven years and during those years endeared himself to the people by the zeal with which he ministered to their spiritual welfare in spite of the privations he had to endure. Father Lee was replaced by Father H. Victor in April, 1890. Father Victor cleared off the debt that was incurred in building the church and then went to live in Marshall, from which place he attended Minneota as a mission.

Minneota remained a mission from 1890 to August, 1901, and during that period it was attended by Fr. Victor (1890-93), Fr. F. Jager (1893-95) and Fr. A. J. Vanden Heuvel (1895-01). In response to a petition from the people and a promise to support a resident

<sup>14</sup>The heads of families which constituted the initial membership of the Minneota Catholic church were as follows: Michael Cain, Barney Agnew, Philip Lynch, Thomas Rogan, Walter Walsh, Martin Finnegan, Patrick McGinn, Robert Culshaw, James Kiley, Hugh Bowden, Pat Creeden, John O'Connor, Bernie O'Hare, Garrett Ahern, William Salmon, John Boulton, Peter Tumulty, Francis McMahon, Daniel Mullen, Patrick Langan, James O'Brien, Martin Langan, William Garrety, Joseph Whitwell, John Braken, William Lyons, Hugh McNamara, John Buckley, Michael Bunce, Bernard Cassidy, John Malone, William

Reynolds, Charles Donnely, John Dobson, Thomas Howard, Michael Dwyer, James Cahill, John Pennington, James McMahon, Edward Kelley, Peter Hughes, Lawrence McDonald, Edward O'Brien and John McCluskey.

<sup>15</sup>The Belgian and Holland families who remained members of St. Edward's parish were those of Charles DeSutter, John Tillemans, Ferdinand Wambeke, Peter Jennen, Peter Stassen, Frank Buysse, Louis Traen, Anthon Bankers and Peter Moorse.

pastor, Archbishop Ireland appointed Father Murlowski to the pastoral charge of St. Edward's congregation in August, 1901. At that time the people rebuilt the parish house, expending thereon \$1251. Father Murlowski died after an operation in Rochester in January, 1903. Father A. Schaefer became pastor the same year and guided the destinies of St. Edward's until September 10, 1905, when he was succeeded by the present pastor, Father W. J. Stewart.

The parish has progressed rapidly under the administration of Father Stewart. Owing to his tireless activity during the years of his pastorate the Catholic cemetery has been enlarged and beautified, the church has been repainted without and redecorated within, the assessment of \$2200 for the new cathedral at St. Paul has been paid in full, \$13,300 has been subscribed toward the building of a new parish church, and a block of land—one of the finest in the village—has been purchased on liberal terms from John O'Connor as the site for the future developments of this progressive parish. The congregation at the present writing consists of about 350 members. The church trustees are Philip Ahern, secretary, and Harry J. Tillemans, treasurer. Mr. Tillemans succeeded Robert Culshaw, who died May 7, 1912, and who for thirty years was treasurer, organist and conductor of the choir of St. Edward's parish.

An Icelandic Lutheran society was organized so early as 1880, but St. Paul's Church was not founded until October 27, 1887. The first members and church officers were G. S. Sigurdson,

president; J. H. Frost, secretary and treasurer; F. R. Johnson, C. G. Schram and St. Gilbertson. Rev. N. S. Thorlaksson was the first pastor and served from 1887 to 1894. Rev. B. B. Jonsson has been pastor since that time.

St. Paul's Church was incorporated July 24, 1891, and the parsonage was built that year. The church home was built in 1895 and dedicated December 8 of that year. Rev. Sigurdson, of Winnipeg, Rev. Jonsson, of Minneota, and Prof. Sanders, of St. Peter, conducted the dedicatory services. The value of the church property is \$7000. The present membership is 250. The members of the church council are G. B. Bjornson, B. Jones, G. A. Anderson, H. G. Johnson, K. S. Askdal, P. P. Jokull and A. R. Johnson. Auxiliary societies maintained are Sunday School, Luther League and Ladies Aid Society.

The First Baptist Church of Minneota was organized in 1896. Prior to that time services were held occasionally, conducted by visiting clergymen and theological students. The organization of the Minneota church was brought about through the labors of Rev. E. R. McKinney, then pastor-at-large for Southwestern Minnesota, and Rev. E. R. Pope. It began with a membership of thirty-four.<sup>16</sup> N. N. Smart and C. D. Bremer were the first deacons and P. O. French was the first clerk of the society. Rev. E. R. D. Hollensted was installed as the first pastor.<sup>17</sup>

A Baptist church edifice was completed in the spring of 1897 at a cost of \$1200. The church now has a membership of twenty-five. Services are held

<sup>16</sup>The first members of the Baptist church were Nathan N. Smart, Rebecca Smart, Nellie Smith, Mrs. A. M. Olson, Mrs. Alice Cole, Mrs. Richard Bliss, Mrs. Rhoda French, Mrs. C. J. Wimer, Miss Pratt, Mr. and Mrs. C. D. Bremer, George W. Carpenter, William Carpenter, Mr. and Mrs. Ed. North, Mrs. John Ferguson, W. F. Smith, Agnes Miller, Charles M. Anderson, Miss Gertrude Barlow, C. R. Bremer, Miss Anne Bremer, Miss Effie Bliss, Frank W. Carpenter, Miss Hester

Cummins, Mr. and Mrs. A. C. Dale, Mrs. B. C. Franzen, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Gee, Miss Gertrude Gee, Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Goodrich, Miss Ethel Goodrich.

<sup>17</sup>The following have served as pastors of the First Baptist Church of Minneota: E. R. D. Hollensted, 1896-98; C. R. Upton, 1899-00; W. D. Dye, 1901-02; N. J. Hilton, 1903-05; J. D. Nichols, 1907-08; students and visiting pastors, 1908-11; J. M. Brown, 1911-12.

every other Sabbath, the pastor also having charge of the church at Canby. The deacons of the church are P. O. French and John Yeo. Mrs. French is clerk and Mr. French treasurer of the society.

The church of the Immanuel Evangelical Lutheran Congregation of Minneota, affiliated with the Norwegian Synod of North America, was organized April 18, 1898, by fourteen families.<sup>18</sup> The first officers of the church were H. N. Dahl, president; G. C. Lee, secretary; O. J. Wignes, treasurer; I. N. Olevson, S. P. Hegdahl and W. H. Deen, trustees.

For six months after the organization services were conducted by missionary pastors of the Synod, and then Rev. A. J. Nervig was installed as pastor and the pulpit has since been regularly supplied.<sup>19</sup> The church home was Good Templars' Hall for two years, and in the summer of 1900 the present house of worship was put up at a cost of \$2400. The present membership is about fifty and the following are the church officers: Rev. B. B. Jonsson, president; Ole I. Lee, secretary and treasurer; W. H. Deen, I. N. Olevson and John G. Geiwitz, trustees. Services are held every third Sabbath.

<sup>18</sup>The families constituting the initial membership of Immanuel church were those of H. N. Dahl, W. H. Deen, I. N. Olevson, O. J. Wignes, S. P. Hegdahl, O. J. Moe, P. R. Myers, O. G. Reese, H. C. Lee, G. C. Lee, O. I. Lee, Edor Myers, N. W. L. Jager and K. E. Fodnes.

<sup>19</sup>The following have been pastors of the Evangelical Lutheran church: A. J. Nervig, 1898-01; Sorenson, 1901-06; O. M. Gullerud, 1906-10; B. B. Jonsson, 1911-12.

<sup>20</sup>The charter members of Minneota Camp were John E. Berg, Charles D. Blaker, G. B. Bjornson, H. L. Champlin, J. M. Collins, G. A. Dalmann, Nels P. Frederickson, Martin Furgeson, St. Gilbertson, Walter B. Gislason, Frank Hinkley, Frank R. Johnson, Ole I. Lee, James Meaghan, M. H. Marcuson, Samuel J. Swenson, Saras Sorenson, John Stephenson, S. E. Sanderson and Dell M. Walrath. The present members holding office in the lodge are A. E. Arntson, J. G. Geiwitz, J. F. Finnegan, S. B. Erickson, H. G. Johnson, George Benson, M. F. Kliaith, P. M. Berg, W. H. Deen and Martin Peterson.

<sup>21</sup>Charter members of Alpha Lodge were Betsy Kile, Otto Anderson, J. F. Finnegan, P. G. Schram, S. Walter Jonason, Olophena Werpy, W. J. Salmon, Martin Furgeson, Jonina Holm, Minnie E. Stowell, Mrs. W. B. Gislason, Dimphna Meaghan, Clara E. Van Tassel, Eliza Sanderson, Edwin O. Ageton, Alice Wimer, Eveline Ringham, Betsey Moe, Mrs. J. G.

#### THE LODGES.

Minneota Camp No. 2385, Modern Woodmen of America, is the oldest fraternal order in Minneota. It was organized August 20, 1894,<sup>20</sup> and has had a prosperous existence. The present membership in good standing is 151.

Alpha Lodge No. 1382, Royal Neighbors of America, was organized February 27, 1899, and is still an active organization.<sup>21</sup>

Minneota Lodge No. 200, Independent Order Odd Fellows, was instituted February 9, 1901, by Grand Master Alex Van Praag. It was organized with a small membership<sup>22</sup> but has had a prosperous life and now has twenty-three members.

Equality Lodge No. 238, A. F. & A. M., was organized April 4, 1901, with ten charter members.<sup>23</sup> Thirty-two members are now on the rolls and regular meetings are held at Masonic Hall.

Homestead Lodge No. 778, Brotherhood American Yeomen, was instituted September 14, 1901, by W. D. Bryant.<sup>24</sup> The present membership is thirty-nine.

St. Edward's Court No. 1498, Catholic Order of Foresters, was instituted Sep-

Hunter, Zella M. Ageton, Anna O. Hanson, Mrs. H. L. Drake, Anna Reese and Emma McConnell.

<sup>22</sup>The following were first members of the Odd Fellows lodge: J. G. Hunter, J. B. Gardner, S. Magnuson, P. O. French, K. K. Mohn, D. M. Walrath, M. B. McAlister, J. E. Berg, A. E. Walrath and P. M. Berg. The principal officers at present are L. M. Lerwick, G. H. Jonathan, S. B. Erickson and P. M. Berg.

<sup>23</sup>The charter members were as follows: G. A. Dalmann, C. M. Gislason, S. M. S. Askdal, W. A. Crowe, I. N. Olevson, J. C. Rogde, P. O. French, H. J. Moe, G. B. Bjornson and E. I. Leland. The present officers of the lodge are L. M. Lerwick, Theodore Thordarson, A. B. Gislason, B. B. Gislason, Arnold Gloor, G. A. Dalmann, C. E. Anderson, H. J. Moe, Arthur E. Arntson and P. O. French.

<sup>24</sup>Charter members of the Yeomen lodge were J. J. McGinn, K. K. Mohn, O. C. Spoillum, W. H. Lewis, Andrew Anderson, G. S. Sigurdson, Nels A. Anderson, Edwin O. Ageton, J. B. Gardner, C. A. Knutson, Cornelius Kiley, W. M. Flemming, G. B. Bjornson, Lewis L. DeSutter, G. Rofinson, Frank O'Neal, Bert O'Neal, C. V. Arneson, August Princen, Albert J. Johnson, Elmer O'Neal, A. J. McGinn and John A. Peterson. The present members holding office are P. M. Berg, T. P. Culshaw, A. J. McGinn, O. H. Werpy, C. E. Culshaw, A. W. Berg, Mrs. O. H. Werpy and Mrs. P. M. Berg.

tember 8, 1904, by Deputy Blissenbach, of Mankato.<sup>25</sup> The lodge at present has fourteen members.

#### THE LIBRARY.

The Minneota News and Art Club founded a library in 1901 and conducted it two years. The club then turned it over to the village and its management has since been vested in the Village Council. The library, which contains about 1000 volumes, is on the second floor of the city hall and is open to the public on Wednesday and Saturday evenings of each week. Librarians who have been in charge since it has been conducted by the village have been Hannah Dahl, 1903-04; S. Hognason, 1904-05; Edith B. Seals, 1905-12. The library board is composed of Edith B. Seals, president; E. T. Sanderson, secretary; H. J. Tillemans, treasurer; Ella Benson, B. B. Gislason, S. B. Erickson, Hannah Hognason, Arnold Gloor and B. B. Jonsson.

#### THE FIRE DEPARTMENT.

The Minneota Fire Department is one of the oldest fire fighting organizations of Lyon county. It came into being as a result of a fire in the summer of 1885 which destroyed the Van Dusen elevator. The department was organized September 15, 1885, with W. A. Crowe as chief. A little apparatus was purchased at that time and a small building erected to house it.

The department now has forty members and the following are the principal officers: P. M. Berg, chief; O. I. Lee, secretary; W. P. Tillemans, treasurer. The apparatus is housed in the city hall and consists of two hose carts, two

chemicals, one hook and ladder truck, and 1200 feet of hose.

#### THE BANKS.

Minneota has two banking institutions, the First National Bank and the Farmers and Merchants National Bank. The banking history of the village antedates the establishment of either of these institutions, however. In the early eighties William Davidson and A. D. Davidson founded the Bank of Minneota and conducted it as a private banking house for a number of years under the firm name of Davidson Brothers.

The State Bank of Minneota, the predecessor of the present First National Bank, was established in 1892. John Swenson was the first president and he has ever since been at the head of the institution. O. L. Dorr was the first cashier and he continued in that position until after the reorganization into the First National Bank. L. M. Lerwick was made cashier in July, 1910. The building occupied by the bank was erected in 1902. The capital stock of the First National is \$30,000.

The Farmers and Merchants National Bank was organized in 1903 with a capital stock of \$25,000 and with the following first officers: W. A. Crowe, president; C. J. Wimer, vice president; E. I. Leland, cashier; F. M. Ahern, assistant cashier. Mr. Crowe retained the presidency until January, 1912, when he was succeeded by A. J. Kile. Mr. Wimer was succeeded as vice president in 1906 by C. K. Melby, and the latter a year later by A. J. Kile. M. F. Ahern was made cashier at the beginning of 1905, C. K. Melby in March,

<sup>25</sup>The charter members of St. Edward's Court were A. J. Kelley, Rev. Schaefer, H. J. Tillemans, C. Culshaw, G. F. Ahern, M. F. Ahern, M. J. Finnegan, E. B. Kiley, J. Wemerskesken, W. J. Moughan, Edward

Langan, D. F. Salmon and Frank Tiemesson. The present office holders of the order are H. J. Tillemans, Edward O'Connor, A. J. McGinn, E. G. Langan, T. P. Culshaw, J. Rogan and F. Tiemesson.

1905, and H. J. Tillemans, the present cashier, at the beginning of 1906. Mr. Tillemans succeeded Mr. Ahern as assistant cashier in 1905 and the next year S. B. Erickson succeeded to the office. The home of the bank was erected in 1903.

The growth of the business of the Farmers and Merchants National Bank has been rapid. According to a state-

ment made November 10, 1905, just before Mr. Tillemans became cashier, the resources of the bank were only \$87,902.04. A statement made April 18, 1912, showed that the resources had advanced to \$433,914.49. The deposits at that time were \$365,430.06. The bank has a surplus and undivided profits of \$25,000, and is rated one of the sound institutions of Lyon county.

## CHAPTER XIII.

### COTTONWOOD—1888-1912.

COTTONWOOD is one of the younger villages of Lyon county, but its growth during the twenty-four years of its existence has been substantial. Today it ranks as the county's fourth town in size, with a population of 770 according to the last census. The village is a prosperous one and is situated in the midst of an excellent farming country. It is built on the bank of Cottonwood lake and has one of the finest townsites in Lyon county. Cottonwood is in the extreme north-eastern corner of the county, on section 9, Lucas township, and is a station of the Great Northern railroad.

Settlers first located in the vicinity in the early seventies, but because of the distance from markets the development of that part of the county was not so great as that of the portions lying in proximity to the railroad. When the Willmar & Sioux Falls (Great Northern) railroad was built through the county in 1888 northeastern Lyon county became rapidly filled with settlers and the village of Cottonwood was founded and had a rapid growth.

It will be remembered that the pre-

liminary steps toward the building of the new railroad were taken in 1887 and that the roadbed was graded that year. No steps were taken that early to found any of the towns along the proposed line but there was speculation as to their probable location and it was early rumored that one of the stations in Lyon county would be on the shores of Cottonwood lake. The first mention in the public prints we find of a prospective town there was in the Marshall News-Messenger of September 9, 1887, which said: "Cottonwood lake is without doubt the prettiest sheet of water, next to Lake Benton, in this part of the state, and a station will be located there. It will prove a great resort in summer for all people hereabouts and no more beautiful location for a town can be found anywhere."

Late in the same season the railroad authorities selected the sites for all the stations, although they were not officially announced to the public and there was no intention of platting the sites until the road was constructed.<sup>1</sup> Work on the road was resumed in 1888, and in May of that year it was officially

<sup>1</sup>The Marshall News-Messenger of November 11, 1887, said: "While we have not official authority for locating the stations in this county, we have sufficient indications to pronounce the following locations as quite certainly decided on: The first station will be at Cottonwood lake, about fourteen miles distant and six and one-half miles this side of Hanley Falls. This

will be an important station, beautiful in location, upon a fine lake, and must become a favored summer resort for our people. In its charming surroundings it is unequalled by any place in this section of country, save Lake Benton. The railroad will control the townsite and intends to make it a first-class town."

announced that one of the stations would be on Cottonwood lake and that its name would be Cottonwood. The rails were laid on the new line in August and train service was begun north of Marshall on September 11. Before that event occurred preparations had been made for founding Cottonwood.

The founders were C. B. Tyler and J. G. Schutz, of Marshall. They purchased from Dr. Lange, of New York City, 372 acres of land on section 9, Lucas township, for which they paid \$18 per acre. In July, 1888, they laid out the townsite, consisting of about forty acres, on the northeast and southeast quarters of the section. The plat was surveyed by C. L. Van Fleet July 27 and the dedication was made by Messrs. Tyler and Schutz on the last day of the month. It consisted of nine blocks and included land on both sides of the railroad track. The streets running north and south were named East Second, East First, Railroad, Lake, West First and West Second, and those east and west were Front and Main.<sup>2</sup>

Before the survey was completed several lots were sold<sup>3</sup> and immediately thereafter several buildings were put up. The first building completed on the site was a blacksmith shop by Larson Brothers, which was put up in August. In September Martin Ness erected a double building, in part of which he opened a hotel early in September; the other part of the building was rented to Olof Pehrson, of Marshall, who became the pioneer merchant of the village. His store was opened October 2, in

charge of C. T. Hanson. The next enterprise started was by Martin Norseth, who in September received several cars of lumber and engaged in the lumber business. The same month he started a store building and before the close of the year opened a hardware store, which was soon afterward sold to Sperber & Hunzicker.

The railroad was completed in August and train service begun on September 11. W. L. Barnett became the first agent and was the first permanent resident of the village. In partnership with Martin Norseth he engaged in the coal business. John Sturman dug a well and erected a water tank for the railroad company in September, and in October the depot was erected.

Christ Dahl and J. H. Dahl began the erection of a two-story business house in September and completed it in December. In the lower part they opened a grocery store, and the upper floor was used as their place of residence. The Northwestern Elevator Company began the erection of an elevator late in July, which was completed early in October and opened under the management of J. H. Dahl.<sup>4</sup> On September 5 the Cottonwood Farmers Co-operative Association was organized with a capital stock of \$2000 to engage in the stock, grain and produce business. Hans Solberg established a restaurant late in the year and T. Sole built a carpenter shop. Johnson Brothers began the erection of a creamery on Cottonwood lake, which, however, was not completed that season.

An early consideration of the people

<sup>2</sup>Additions to Cottonwood have been platted as follows:

George Anderson's First, December 9, 1893, by George Anderson; surveyed by O. H. Sterk.

Schutz & Tyler's First, May 10, 1897, by C. B. Tyler and J. G. Schutz; surveyed by O. H. Sterk.

Arneson & Olson's First, July 2, 1897, by G. A. Arneson and O. J. Olson; surveyed by O. H. Sterk.

Schutz & Tyler's Second, October 19, 1898, by C. B. Tyler and J. G. Schutz; surveyed by W. A. Hawkins.

<sup>3</sup>Lots were put on sale at \$50 each. The first purchaser was Martin Norseth, who paid a bonus of \$100 for first choice. The second and third purchasers were Martin Ness and Dahl Brothers. In 1889 the price of lots was \$75 and \$100 and a few years later advanced to \$300 and \$400.

<sup>4</sup>Before the close of the year 1888, seventy-five cars of wheat were shipped from Cottonwood, forty-nine cars of wood and coal were received, and there were still 10,000 bushels of wheat stored in the elevator.

of Cottonwood was the establishment of a postoffice. For many years a country postoffice named Vineland, located over the line in Yellow Medicine county, had supplied mail facilities for the people of the Cottonwood lake country, and early in October steps were taken to have the office moved to the new village. This was accomplished and the Vineland postmaster, O. S. Reishus, moved the office, renamed Cottonwood, to the village. He purchased new fixtures, erected a building, and in December opened the office, conducting a stationery and book store in connection. The mail route by rail was established January 28, 1889. Mr. Reishus was postmaster only a short time and was succeeded by Christ Dahl.<sup>5</sup>

Cottonwood's growth during 1889 was almost in the nature of a boom, but it was based on merit alone. A large tract of tributary country, which before had been long distances from market, demanded a good trading point, and Cottonwood filled the bill.<sup>6</sup>

In 1889 Blackmar & Curran, of Minneapolis, and Martin Norseth organized the Cottonwood Lumber Company, erected lumber sheds and an office, and engaged in the lumber business with Mr. Norseth as manager. John Anderson erected a hotel building, which was leased to O. E. Gilman. P. H. and A. H. Baker put up a new building. O. O. Brenna erected a store building and A. C. Chittenden, of Marshall, established a branch general store therein. Sperber & Hunzicker purchased the hardware store of Martin Norseth and

put in a larger stock. J. G. Schutz and John Hollo, of Marshall, built a large store building with a hall on the second floor and established another general store. O. O. Slette engaged in the implement and hardware business. The firm of Dahl & Lieberg was formed and continued, with increased stocks, the general store established by Dahl Brothers, adding a millinery department. Anderson Brothers opened a pool hall and temperance saloon. Tones Bore erected a two-story store building. Grover Brothers started a livery barn, which was destroyed by fire October 15. Several others engaged in business, a number of residences were erected, and at the close of 1889 a prosperous and flourishing village had grown up.

A directory of the business houses published in December, 1889, listed the following:

- Olof Pehrson (C. T. Hanson, manager), general merchandise.
- Dahl & Lieberg, general merchandise.
- Schutz & Hollo, general merchandise.
- A. C. Chittenden (Segur Johnson, manager), general merchandise.
- Martin Ness, furniture.
- Sperber & Hunzicker, hardware.
- O. O. Slette, hardware and farming implements.
- Charles R. Wall, harness shop.
- Mamie and Ida Hunzicker, millinery.
- Henry Anderson, meat market.
- Anderson Brothers, billiard hall.
- O. E. Gilman, hotel.
- Grover Brothers, livery barn.
- Larson Brothers, blacksmith shop.
- Larson & Sole, wagon shop.
- Cottonwood Lumber Company (Martin Norseth, manager), lumber.
- E. T. Doty, lumber and fuel.
- Northwestern Elevator Company (J. S. Otis, manager), grain.
- Inter-State Grain Company (Charles Kayser, manager), grain.
- Christ Dahl, postmaster.
- A. L. Skinner, station agent.

<sup>5</sup>Postmasters of Cottonwood have been as follows: Christ Dahl, 1889-90; J. H. Dahl, 1890-94; John Michie, 1894-99; W. D. Lovelace, 1899-04; Mrs. Sarah Dahl, 1904-12. The office is third-class.

Two rural mail routes are operated from the Cottonwood office. No. 1 was established November 16, 1903, with Lars Rasmussen as carrier. No. 2 was established April 15, 1904, with Carl Stark as carrier.

<sup>6</sup>The Marshall News-Messenger of November 1, 1889, said: "Cottonwood is a phenomenal town and

its sudden growth is suggestive of the boom towns of Dakota, but there the comparison ends, for Cottonwood has grown upon its old merit as an agricultural center and from the equally cold fact that it is surrounded by as thrifty a settlement of farmers as can be found anywhere in the broad Northwest. . . . The growth is phenomenal when one considers that not the least effort has been made to sell lots or induce settlers to go there. There has been no public sale of lots; no newspaper notice of the town, and never a line of printed matter put out regarding the place."

Rev. K. Thorstenson, pastor Norwegian Lutheran church.

The growth of Cottonwood was rapid during 1890 and at the age of two years the village boasted a population of more than 200 people. There were then about twenty business houses and fifty residences. Progress was rapid also in 1891 and several new buildings were erected. The Marshall Reporter of September 24, 1891, said: "Cottonwood is making a boom this fall. All the stores report good business and there has been more wheat shipped from this place than from any other station on the road. . . . Cottonwood is having a steady growth, and the large and good country surrounding warrants it."

The growth of Cottonwood had been so rapid that when it was three years old the residents decided to incorporate as a village. On December 3, 1891, a petition signed by Martin Norseth and thirty-two others was presented to the Board of County Commissioners, asking that body to call a special election for the purpose of voting on incorporation. The petition was granted and January 12, 1892, was the date set for the election. It was held in Syndicate Hall and "for incorporation" was carried by a vote of 33 to 11. The corporate limits included six and one-half sections of land and included considerable farming country.<sup>7</sup>

The election to choose the first village

<sup>7</sup>These limits were reduced to two sections as the result of a special election on November 1, 1894, when there were set off sections 5 and 8, the north half of 17, the north half of 16, the northwest quarter of 15, the west half of 10 and the west half of 3, all in Lucas township.

<sup>8</sup>During the twenty-one years of the corporate history of Cottonwood licensed saloons have been operated thirteen years and the village has been "dry" eight years. Excepting one year, the license question has been an issue at every regular election under the local option law. The results have been as follows:

1892—License carried.

1893—For, 57; against, 20.

1894—For, 63; against, 27.

1895—For, 16; against, 57.

1896—License by 15 majority.

1897—License by 9 majority.

1898—No vote; license in force.

1899—For, 53; against, 31.

officers was held February 1, when sixty-four votes were cast. The officers qualified at once and village government was begun. The first officers served only until their successors were chosen at the regular election the next month.

Following is the roster of village officers from the time of incorporation to the present:<sup>8</sup>

1892—President, Thomas McKinley and Martin Norseth;<sup>9</sup> trustees, O. O. Brenna, George Russell, J. H. Dahl; recorder, C. T. Hanson; treasurer, C. R. Wall; justices, O. H. Dahl, P. J. Krog; constables, D. B. York, O. J. Johnson.

1892 (regular election)—President, Thomas McKinley; trustees, George Russell, Louis Larson, J. L. Otis; recorder, C. T. Hanson; treasurer, C. R. Wall; justices, O. O. Brenna, Jr., J. R. Bell; constables, O. J. Johnson, D. B. York.

1893—President, Martin Norseth; trustees, G. Arneson, M. T. Ness; recorder, C. T. Hanson; treasurer, J. H. Dahl; justice, J. B. Robertson.

1894—President, Martin Norseth; trustees, J. H. Dahl, Louis Larson, O. O. Brenna, Sr.; recorder, C. T. Hanson; treasurer, C. R. Wall; justice, J. F. Gibb; constables, D. B. York, O. J. Johnson.

1895—President, J. H. Catlin; trustees, Thomas McKinley, J. F. Gibb; recorder, C. G. Strand; treasurer, C. R. Wall; justice, O. O. Brenna, Jr.; constable, Ludwig Erickson.

1896—President, J. H. Catlin; trustees, Thomas McKinley, O. J. Johnson, O. J. Olson; recorder, C. G. Strand; treasurer, C. R. Wall; justice, Ole Ranum; constables, Charles Catlin, D. B. York.

1897—President, J. H. Catlin; trustees, Thomas McKinley, O. J. Olson, O. J. Johnson; recorder, C. G. Strand; treasurer, C. R. Wall; justice, S. H. Adams; constable, F. Gandy.

1898—President, Thomas McKinley; trustees, George Anderson, Louis Larson, A. T. Lindblad; recorder, C. G. Strand; treasurer, C. R. Wall; justices, O. O. Brenna, Jr., W. D. Fanning; constable, John Munroe.

1899—President, J. H. Catlin; trustees, Louis Larson, A. T. Lindblad, James Grieve; recorder, C. G. Strand;<sup>10</sup> treasurer, C. R. Wall; assessor, M. T. Ness; constable, S. H. Adams.

1900—For, 60; against, 50.

1901—Against license by 20 majority.

1902—For, 88; against, 55.

1903—For, 80; against, 60.

1904—License by 15 majority.

1905—For, 74; against, 83.

1906—For, 93; against, 81.

1907—For, 89; against, 73.

1908—For, 68; against, 77.

1909—For, 55; against, 99.

1910—For, 37; against, 93.

1911—For, 47; against, 97.

1912—For, 58; against, 86.

<sup>9</sup>The vote for president of the Village Council was a tie between Messrs. McKinley and Norseth. Lots were not drawn, as the law provided, and for a short time the village had two presidents.

<sup>10</sup>Mr. Strand left the village and at a special election in May, 1899, O. J. Olson was elected his successor.

English Lutheran Church



Main Street



## COTTONWOOD SCENES

Public School

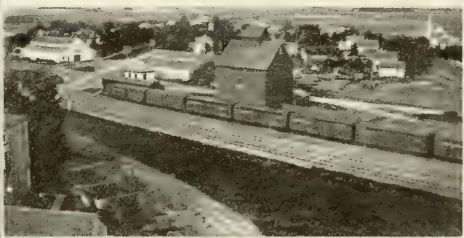


Presbyterian Church



Norwegian Lutheran Church

Birdseye View





1900—President, J. B. Robertson; trustees, Louis Larson, James Grieve, A. T. Lindblad; recorder, O. J. Olson; treasurer, J. F. Gibb; assessor, E. P. Kelly; justices, J. R. Jones, W. J. Mackay; constables, John Munroe, Sven Moen.

1901—President, J. B. Robertson; trustees, N. P. Frederickson, A. O. Anderson, J. H. Catlin; recorder, O. J. Olson; treasurer, J. F. Gibb; assessor, E. P. Kelly; justice, W. A. Goodburn.

1902—President, J. H. Catlin; trustees, J. Mero, D. B. York, A. L. Bolstad; recorder, C. R. Laingen; treasurer, J. F. Gibb; assessor, John Michie; justice, O. O. Brenna, Jr.; constables, John Munroe, J. F. Kahler.

1903—President, J. H. Catlin; trustees, J. H. Dahl, G. Fossum, W. M. Davis; recorder, E. P. Kelly; treasurer, C. R. Wall; assessor, John Michie; justice, W. A. Goodburn.

1904—President, George Anderson; trustees, G. Fossum, J. T. Garry, P. T. Dahl; recorder, O. J. Olson; treasurer, John Michie; assessor, Andrew Rossland; justices, J. H. Leas, I. N. Boe; constables, John Munroe, J. F. Kahler.

1905—President, Martin Norseth; trustees, P. H. Bly, Gabriel Anderson, W. A. Goodburn; recorder, Charles Catlin; treasurer, G. A. Arneson; assessor, Andrew Rossland; justice, O. O. Brenna, Jr.

1906—President, J. H. Catlin; trustees, T. A. Lende, Adolph Johnson, J. H. Dahl; recorder, C. R. Laingen; treasurer, P. T. Dahl; assessor, John Michie; justice, O. H. Hatlestad; constables, I. N. Boe, G. A. Boese.

1907—President, P. H. Bly; trustees, T. A. Lende, E. C. Christian, A. B. Anderson; recorder, L. T. Reishus; treasurer, George Lowe; assessor, G. Fossum.

1908—President, L. T. Reishus; trustees, P. T. Dahl, D. B. York, T. A. Lende; recorder, John Michie; treasurer, George Lowe; assessor, G. Fossum; justice, G. M. Davis; constables, G. A. Boese, Lauritz Kise.

1909—President, G. A. Arneson; trustees, Andrew Rossland, L. Abrahamson, H. J. Fratzke; recorder, John Michie; treasurer, I. L. Kolhei; assessor, G. Fossum; justices, W. D. Lovelace, O. O. Brenna; constable, Louis Gunderson.

1910—President, A. O. Anderson; trustees, J. T. Garry, C. R. Undem, J. M. Anderson; recorder, W. J. Huddleston; treasurer, P. T. Dahl; assessor, G. Fossum; constable, G. A. Boese.

1911—President, A. O. Anderson; trustees, J. T. Garry, C. R. Undem, J. M. Anderson; recorder, W. J. Huddleston; treasurer, P. T. Dahl; assessor, G. Fossum; justices, R. W. Christie, Louis Gunderson; constable, William Harmening.

1912—President, E. S. Reishus; trustees, J. T. Garry, John Munroe, T. Tharaldsen; recorder, W. C. Frank; treasurer, Henry Arneson; justice, George Lowe; constables, G. A. Boese, A. M. Anderson.

Cottonwood was visited by a fire on April 22, 1893, which brought a loss of

\$5000 and which but for a fortunate circumstance would have destroyed the entire business portion of the village. The fire originated in the office of the Cottonwood Current and spread rapidly despite the efforts of the citizens to check it. There had been a heavy fall of snow and the progress of the flames was finally checked by packing damp snow in a sixteen-inch space between two buildings. The losses were as follows:

Christ Peterson, Cottonwood Current building.....	\$600
Current office.....	100
Larson Brothers, blacksmith shop.....	600
C. R. Wall, harness shop and building..	1600
George Gigstad, building occupied by O. O. Slette.....	1200
J. W. Williams, damage to building occupied by Paul Twedt & Company as a saloon.....	900

The burned district was immediately rebuilt with larger and better buildings.

The progress of Cottonwood during the past twenty years of its history has been rapid and it has developed into an exceptionally good town. Its population in 1895 was only 303. This was increased to 549 in 1900 and to 883 in 1905. The census of 1910 showed a population of 770.

#### THE SCHOOL.

On October 7, 1876, school district No. 15—now the Cottonwood district—was organized. Before Cottonwood was founded the school was taught in private homes in the country nearby.<sup>11</sup> In the spring of 1889 an effort was made to form a new district for the village and to erect a school house, but it was unsuccessful.

The school of district No. 15 was located in the village in January, 1890, and for two months school was held in a building formerly occupied by the

<sup>11</sup>The first teacher of the school in district No. 15 was P. H. Dahl and the first pupils were P. H. Rognlie, H. N. Dahl, Caroline Dahl, Tillie Dahl, John H.

Anderson, Tonnes E. Anderson, Henry E. Anderson, Dena Anderson, Nels H. Dahl and Herman H. Dahl.

store of A. C. Chittenden.<sup>12</sup> Then for over a year the village was without a school.<sup>13</sup> At a meeting on March 21, 1891, the voters authorized a bond issue of \$1500 to erect a school house in the village, but at another meeting in May the amount was reduced to \$1000. A building was erected that fall at a cost of \$2000 and school was thereafter held regularly therein. The pioneer building was replaced in the fall of 1903 by the present structure.

A reorganization of the Cottonwood schools was made March 2, 1903, when an independent district was formed<sup>14</sup> and a high school course added, which is now a full four-year course. The first class was graduated from the high school in 1907.<sup>15</sup> More than 200 pupils are now enrolled in the public schools of Cottonwood. P. A. Reinertson is superintendent of the schools.

#### THE CHURCHES.

Three church societies have active organizations in Cottonwood, namely, the Silo Norwegian Lutheran, the Pres-

byterian and the English Lutheran.

The oldest of these is Silo Norwegian Lutheran Church, whose founding antedates the birth of the village. It was organized in 1880 by Norwegian families living in the vicinity of the future village<sup>16</sup> and at once became a strong society. Rev. K. Thorstensen was pastor from 1880 to 1893, Rev. M. Ramstad from 1893 to 1907, and Rev. T. H. Haugen from the last named date to the present time.

The Norwegian Lutherans had no church home until after the founding of Cottonwood. A fine building was put up in 1889 and has ever since been used by the congregation. The value of the church property is \$13,000, including \$3500 expended for a parsonage in 1911. The church has a large membership.<sup>17</sup>

The First Presbyterian Church of Cottonwood was organized in 1895 by Rev. R. N. Adams, synodical missionary. J. B. Robertson and J. F. Gibb took a prominent part in organizing and financing the society. The initial membership was small,<sup>18</sup> but the church has

<sup>12</sup>A partial list of those who have taught in the Cottonwood schools is as follows: Thone Thorstenson, Sadie Robinson, James A. Wilson, Mrs. C. D. Orr, Sarah Foss, Esther Davis, Mary Davis, S. L. Wait, Anna Dahl, Inga Dahl, Hulda Peterson, Annie Jurisdol, Alice Paulson, Emma Moen, Anna S. Lawrence, Marion W. Gibbs, Anna M. Gould, S. O. Eidem and Mabel Donaldson.

<sup>13</sup>The Cottonwood correspondent to the Marshall News-Messenger of July 25, 1890, said: "It seems a pity that we do not have school within the village. The citizens are going to get up a petition to have the district divided and if they succeed will erect a school house and have a permanent school the year round."

<sup>14</sup>Those who have served as members of the Board of Education since the organization as an independent district have been J. F. Gibb, A. E. Anderson, John Lines, A. O. Anderson, John O. Loe, C. R. Undem, A. O. Lende, J. T. Garry, N. P. Frederickson, W. A. Goodburn, O. J. Olson, A. B. Anderson, C. R. Wall, E. P. Kelly, L. T. Reishus, L. McKechnie, A. O. Hovdesven and P. H. Bly.

<sup>15</sup>The following have received diplomas from the Cottonwood High School:

1907—Ralph Undem, Orvin Undem, Jessie Gibb, Clifford Lewis, Norman Ness.

1908—No class.

1909—Myrtle Florence Rouse, Ella Rebecca Lende, Clara Samuella Ludwig, Gertrude Estelle Janssen, Milda Elefta Lende, Neil Martin Kise, Justus Tegner Ness.

1910—Marie G. Jurisdal, Amanda R. Kise, Harvey L. Paulson, Belle A. Gray, Amanda C. Ludwig, Endre B. Anderson, Ella M. Olson, Ida C. Kolhei, Peter J. Waagsness, Maysie M. Gibb, Gladys E. Munroe, John W. Anderson.

1911—Stella Haugan, Clara Hatlestad, Mabel Lien, Hilda Haraldson, Myrtle Townsend, Wilsie Anderson, Elmer Anderson, Paul Bottolfson, Helge Bly, Corelian Lende.

1912—Joseph Kise, Sikke Kleppe, Lauron Lovelace, Ella Peterson, Tilda Thon, Mabel Christenson.

<sup>16</sup>The first members of Silo church were George Anderson, Gabriel Anderson, Nels T. Dahl and family, Hans P. Dahl and family, Peter H. Dahl, Christ H. Dahl, Jacob H. Dahl, Nels N. Rosvold and family, P. H. Rognlie, John H. Anderson, Iver Nelson and family, Nicolas Nelson, Torjus S. Nordgaard and family, Jacob L. Midboe and family, Peter Eliason, E. T. Hamre, Christopher Peterson and family, John Peter Krog and family, Engebret Rasmussen and family and M. T. Ness. The first officers of the church were as follows: Rev. K. Thorstensen, chairman; Torjus S. Nordgaard, secretary; Jacob L. Midboe, treasurer; Iver Nelson, Sr., Gjermund Anderson and Nels N. Rosvold, trustees.

<sup>17</sup>The present officers of Silo church are Rev. T. H. Haugen, chairman; G. O. Aamodt, vice chairman; A. E. Anderson, secretary; Martin M. Egeland, treasurer. The trustees are I. L. Kolhei, chairman; John C. Peterson, L. J. Eikland, C. N. Larson and Hans Berg. The deacons are Rev. T. H. Haugen, C. R. Undem, N. Aarrestad, Lawrence Olson, G. O. Aamodt, O. S. Barstad, Martin M. Egeland and A. E. Anderson.

<sup>18</sup>First members of the Presbyterian church were Mr. and Mrs. Harrison Price, J. B. Robertson, Mr. and Mrs. J. F. Gibb, Mr. and Mrs. E. P. Kelly, Mrs. James Garry, Mrs. William Gibb, Mr. and Mrs. John Lines, Mrs. J. H. Catlin, Mr. and Mrs. John Michie and Mr. and Mrs. W. D. Lovelace.

prospered and has a present membership of sixty-seven. For three years services were conducted twice each month in the Great Northern depot and in 1898 a church edifice was erected at a cost of \$1400. It was dedicated January 22, 1899, by Rev. R. N. Adams. Rev. J. H. Staney has been pastor of the church since October, 1910. The church session consists of J. B. Robertson, John Michie and John L. Leas.

The First English Lutheran Church of Cottonwood is only three years old, but the society it succeeded was one of the old religious bodies of the village. When Cottonwood was founded in 1888 a number of the members of the Silo church left the parent society and founded a Synod Norwegian Lutheran church.<sup>19</sup> A church home was erected in 1892 at a cost of \$3000, the corner stone having been laid in November of that year.

The members of the Synod Norwegian Lutheran church and a number of German Lutherans of Cottonwood and vicinity united on June 6, 1909, and formed the English Lutheran church.<sup>20</sup> The first pastor was Rev. Aasen and the church is now under the pastorate of Rev. Laux, who is also in charge of the German Lutheran church of Posen. The society has a membership of sev-

enty-five. Services are held every three weeks.

#### THE LODGES.

The oldest fraternal order in Cottonwood is Cottonwood Lodge No. 213, Ancient Order United Workmen, which was organized April 6, 1896, with thirteen charter members.<sup>21</sup> It now has a membership of sixteen.

Equity Lodge No. 221, A. F. & A. M., was instituted September 30, 1896, by Past Grand Master W. F. Dickinson, of Redwood Falls, and for a short time was operated under dispensation.<sup>22</sup> The charter was dated January 14, 1897, and the lodge was formally constituted in March. The lodge is still active and has a large membership.<sup>23</sup>

Constance Chapter No. 183, Order Eastern Star, was instituted March 25, 1905, with ten charter members.<sup>24</sup> Regular meetings are held and the lodge has a membership of thirty-seven.

Fortunate Camp No. 7104, Modern Woodmen of America, was organized December 23, 1901.<sup>25</sup> The present membership is sixty-eight and meetings are held regularly in Masonic Hall.

Sunshine Lodge No. 2157, Royal Neighbors of America, began its existence January 31, 1906.<sup>26</sup> It has a present membership of fifteen.

<sup>19</sup>The first members of the Synod church were the following and their families: Sylfest L. Orwoll, Lasse S. Orwoll, Jacob L. Midboe, C. H. Dahl, O. S. Reishus, E. T. Hamre, John L. Johnson, Lars Midboe and Mrs. Anna Dahl. Those selected as officers at the time of organization were C. H. Dahl, Jacob L. Midboe, Lars J. Midboe, E. T. Hamre and O. S. Reishus. Pastors who have occupied the pulpit were Revs. Valler, Lea, Berg, Aasen, Aanestad, Rognlie and Reishus.

<sup>20</sup>The first members of the English Lutheran church were the following gentlemen and their families: Ole Dahl, P. H. Bly, David Frank, Rudolph Frank, Edward Frank, Herman Botcher, August Prechel, Henry Kheen, Henry Olson, E. S. Reishus, C. Fratzke, Ed Strohine, Gustav Thiel and Sarah Dahl.

<sup>21</sup>Charter members of Cottonwood Lodge were Thomas McKinley, J. F. Gibb, C. G. Strand, G. A. Arneson, R. C. Laird, J. R. Kjemhus, C. D. Orr, C. R. Wall, Ludwig E. Erickson, Thomas Chespeski, John P. Berre, Joseph Mero and George Russell.

<sup>22</sup>The first officers of Equity Lodge were S. H. Adams, J. H. Catlin, Thomas McKinley, J. W. Lindblad, James McKay, W. G. Martine, L. McKechnie and James Townsend.

<sup>23</sup>The present officers of the lodge are J. P. Garry, N. P. Frederickson, Joseph B. Mathews, Charles Laingen, William Tolzman, G. A. Boese, James Grieve, George Lowe, Robert Cummings and John Michie.

<sup>24</sup>The charter members of Constance Chapter were Amelia Michie, Leuchlau McKechnie, Ellen Grieve, John Michie, Albertine Boese, Sadie Munroe, C. R. Laingen and J. George Koelz.

<sup>25</sup>The Woodmen camp had the following charter members: D. J. Atrops, Gust Boeberg, Ole Britton, W. M. Davis, W. G. Gibb, William Hamre, E. P. Kelly, A. H. Lowe, O. W. Petterson, John Ophus, A. S. Severson, F. B. Thomas, J. A. Anderberg, A. L. Bolstad, Robert Cummings and H. H. Galbraith.

<sup>26</sup>The charter members of Sunshine Lodge were Mabelle Tharaldson, Hattie V. Strand, William S. Strand, Edna J. Leland, Mary Kjemhus, Anna B. Budd, Allie N. Judd, Sara Browne Jones, John R. Jones, Anna S. Hering, Minnie Gibb, Edith O. Gibb, William G. Gibb, Emma Ensign, George N. Ensign, Anna Christian, Charles L. Cravens, Albertina Boese and Lillie Abott.

## THE FIRE DEPARTMENT.

As a result of the fire of April 22, 1893, the Cottonwood Fire Department was organized. Immediately after the conflagration the Village Council ordered a chemical engine, hook and ladder truck, hose cart, hose and other apparatus. By this one move Cottonwood advanced from no fire protection at all to one of the best protected villages in the vicinity.

The department was organized in August, 1893, with the following first officers: Herman Dahl, chief; W. J. Mackay, captain of chemical company; Will Garry, assistant; C. R. Undem, captain hook and ladder company; R. C. Laird, assistant; L. McKechnie, secretary; S. H. Adams, treasurer. The department now has a membership of twenty. G. A. Boese is chief and his assistant is P. T. Dahl.

## THE BANKS.

Two banking houses are conducted in Cottonwood, the First National and the Cottonwood State. Both are old established institutions and are conducted on sound principles.

The First National is the successor of the Bank of Cottonwood and the Security Bank. The former, a private enterprise, was founded in August, 1892, by J. H. Catlin, who was president, and his son, Charles Catlin, who was cashier. John Michie was the first depositor. The first home of the bank was the building now occupied by the barber shop. In 1901 the institution was renamed Security Bank and organized under the state banking laws with a capital stock of \$15,000. The officers under the reorganization were J. H. Catlin, president; J. F. Gibb, vice president; Charles Catlin, cashier; L. T. Reishus, assistant cashier.

Early in 1903 the Security Bank became the First National Bank and began operations with a capital stock of \$25,000. Two years later it was housed in the present bank building. The present officers are as follows: J. H. Catlin, president; J. F. Gibb, vice president; Charles Catlin, cashier; L. T. Reishus and W. R. Frank, assistant cashiers. The directors are J. H. Catlin, Charles Catlin, J. F. Gibb, L. T. Reishus, R. Frank, D. Frank and J. B. Robertson.

Under the management of Mr. Catlin the bank has grown from small beginnings to an institution of prominence in the financial affairs of Lyon county. Its deposits are over a quarter million dollars. Mr. Catlin is also president of and principal owner of the Wood Lake State Bank.

The Cottonwood State Bank began business September 15, 1897, with a capital stock of \$15,000, in the building erected for the purpose and which has ever since been the bank's home. The officers and principal stockholders at the time of organization were C. S. Orwoll, president; E. S. Reishus, vice president; A. O. Hovdesven, cashier; I. L. Kolhei, Gabriel Anderson, George Anderson and Martin Norseth.

The state bank has grown until it takes high rank among the institutions of the county. The deposits on January 4, 1911, were \$158,000. The present officers and directors are C. S. Orwoll, president; I. L. Kolhei, vice president; A. O. Hovdesven, cashier; Alex Kolhei, assistant cashier; Gabriel Anderson and E. S. Reishus.

## FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY.

One of the big institutions of Lyon county is the Norwegian Mutual Fire Insurance Company of Eidsvold, Lyon

County, Minnesota, the headquarters of which are at Cottonwood. This company is one of the pioneer institutions of the county and has grown to large proportions.

In 1877 E. K. Kjorness, O. L. Orsen and a few other farmers of Eidsvold township organized the company and carried on the business with indifferent success for a time. Others became interested in the venture and on February 22, 1879, a reorganization was effected. This occurred at the home of G. Peterson, on the northwest quarter of section 14, Westerheim township. E. K. Kjorness became president, O. L. Orsen secretary, and I. L. Kolhei treasurer,<sup>27</sup> and the first insurance was written in 1880.

Fifty-seven policies were written in 1880 for a total of \$57,426 insurance. The receipts for the year were \$192.65, fire losses were \$23.00, and other expenses were \$91.76. This made the total expenditures for the year \$114.76 and left a profit of \$77.89 for the year's business. Compared with a present day

statement, that was a small business. In 1911 policies in force were 2440 and the amount of insurance in force \$5,477,920. That year the cash receipts were \$10,825.15 and disbursements \$9,030.75. The cash on hand at the close of the year was \$33,874 and premium notes outstanding were \$5,388.55, making the total assets \$39,262.55.

Insurance is in force in fifty townships in the counties of Lyon, Lincoln, Yellow Medicine, Redwood and Lac qui Parle. The cost of insurance has been reduced from twenty-five cents per \$100 when the company was organized to fifteen cents per \$100 at the present time. The officers and directors of the company are as follows: O. C. Wilson, Granite Falls, president; C. G. Nelson, Canby, vice president; A. E. Anderson, Cottonwood, secretary; I. L. Kolhei, Cottonwood, treasurer; O. L. Orsen, Minnesota; H. G. Odden, Echo; H. P. Rodness, Clarkfield; Chr. Wollum, Porter; Chr. Ramlo, Hendricks.

<sup>27</sup>Mr. Kjorness was president until his death in 1893; since that date O. C. Wilson, of Granite Falls, has been at the head of the company. Mr. Orsen was

secretary until 1901 and was succeeded by A. E. Anderson. Mr. Kolhei has been the only treasurer of the company.

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## CHAPTER XIV.

### BALATON AND RUSSELL—1879-1912.

BALATON is an incorporated village on the Dakota Central branch of the Chicago & Northwestern railroad. The platted portion of the village is on the west half of section 23, Rock Lake township, and it is fifteen miles west from Tracy. The population of Balaton was 364 when the census of 1910 was taken. Its elevation above sea level is 1528 feet. The site is an exceptionally fine one, being on the south shore of Lake Yankton, a lovely sheet of water. As a business point the little village ranks well up with the other municipalities of Lyon county, drawing trade from an old settled portion and finely improved tract of farming country.

Balaton was founded in 1879 as a result of the building of the Dakota Central railroad. The rails were laid so far as Lake Yankton in August, but before that date and before the station was located the first business house was established. David Bell, who had been in business at Amiret, sold out in May and the next month erected a store building a quarter of a mile west of the future village. For a time his patrons

were mostly the laborers employed in construction work. The site of the station was made known in the latter part of June<sup>1</sup> and Mr. Bell immediately moved his store to the site and became the town's first business man, his store being where the Westbee store is now.

The Balaton townsite was surveyed by Albert Jacobi on July 23, 1879, and the plat was certified to by Albert Keep, as president of the Winona & St. Peter Railroad Company, on September 12. Six blocks were originally laid out, divided by First, Second, Third and Fourth Streets and Lake and Central Avenues.<sup>2</sup>

The railroad was completed to the new station in the first part of August and train service was inaugurated September 29. J. W. Mosher was the first agent. The growth of Balaton in the year of its birth was not rapid. In the fall Albert Parker erected a building and established the second general store. Lumber was sold from the station and grain bought that fall, but the year closed with Balaton a very inconspicuous place.

A number of new business enterprises

<sup>1</sup>The Rock Lake correspondent to the Marshall Messenger of July 1, 1879, said: "The railroad company has located our station on section 23, near Lake Yankton. It is one mile east of the center of the town."

<sup>2</sup>Additions to Balaton have been platted as follows: First Railway, May 25, 1886, by Winona & St. Peter Railroad Company; surveyed by J. W. Blake.

Second Railway, July 13, 1893, by Winona & St. Peter Railroad Company; surveyed by J. T. Price.

Third Railway, August 21, 1900, by Winona & St. Peter Railroad Company; surveyed by J. C. W. Cline.

Fourth Railway, October 21, 1901, by Winona & St. Peter Railroad Company; surveyed by F. R. Cline.

Shill's, June 28, 1902, by Arthur M. Shill; surveyed by W. A. Hawkins.

were started in 1880 and the Balaton postoffice was established with R. E. Town as postmaster.<sup>3</sup> William Hamm erected the Balaton House in March and a little later in the same season R. E. Town opened the Lake Avenue Hotel. A grocery and crockery store was opened by E. L. Healy and placed in charge of J. B. Gibbons. That gentleman a little later bought the store and added a stock of general merchandise. Two lumber yards were conducted during the year and a school house and depot were erected.<sup>4</sup>

In the spring of 1881 Messrs. Moore & Weberg opened a general merchandise store and that summer N. A. Sanders started a hardware store, R. E. Town a furniture store, and J. W. Moore a wood yard. In 1882 there were the following business enterprises: Three general stores, one hardware store, one furniture store, one blacksmith and wagon shop, a hotel, an elevator, warehouse and lumber yard.

A directory of the business houses of Balaton as given in C. F. Case's History of Lyon County in 1884 was as follows:

- A. Parker, general merchandise.
- J. B. Gibbons, general merchandise and postmaster.
- J. A. Moore, general merchandise and drugs.
- N. A. Sanders, hardware and machinery.
- E. D. Bartlett, Lake Avenue Hotel.
- William Hamm, Balaton Hotel (leased by C. S. Riley).
- H. H. Stevenhoffer, agent Winona Mill Company, grain.
- N. Zechus, agent Seafeld & Company, grain.
- A. N. Daniels, insurance.
- L. Campbell, justice of the peace.
- W. H. Davy, constable.

<sup>3</sup>The following have served as postmasters of Balaton: R. E. Town, 1880-81; J. B. Gibbons, 1881-86; S. W. Galbraith, 1886-90; A. N. Daniels, 1890-94; S. W. Galbraith, 1894-98; A. Whiting, 1898-05; J. H. Carlaw, 1905-12.

For a number of years before the establishment of rural free delivery routes a mail route was operated between Balaton and Slayton, supplying the Current Lake and Lowville offices. Round trips were made three times a week.

Four rural routes are now operated. Numbers 1 and 2 were established December 1, 1900, with Clayton Whiting and A. M. Wheaton as carriers; No. 3, in 1902, with Clarence Wheaton as carrier; No. 4, in 1907, with S. W. Swihart as carrier.

The growth of Balaton was not rapid, but during the early days it provided a convenient trading point for southern Lyon county and gradually developed into a substantial little village. A correspondent claimed the village had a population of 200 at the beginning of the year 1889.

A fire in the early morning of September 26, 1892, brought destruction to five frame business buildings and several stocks of goods, the loss being about \$15,000. The fire originated in the barber shop and pool hall of E. M. Cameron and when discovered was under too great headway to be controlled. The village then had no fire protection. The principal losses, partly covered by insurance, were as follows:

O. O. Lof, building.....	\$2000
J. B. Gibbons, building.....	1500
Willard Pierce, building.....	300
C. H. Weller, building.....	300
Krook & Tyler, building and stock.....	4000
E. M. Cameron, barber shop and pool room fixtures.....	1000
G. F. Stow, general merchandise.....	3300

Balaton became an incorporated municipality in 1892. An effort had been made to secure incorporation by legislative act in 1888, but it did not eventuate. On November 3, 1892, a petition signed by George L. Carlaw and thirty-nine others was considered by the Board of County Commissioners and favorably acted upon. J. H. Call, William Hamm and C. W. Candee were named inspectors of the election, held December 5, to vote on the question. By a majority of ten the residents decided in

<sup>4</sup>"We made our first visit to Balaton this week. It is a very pleasant location on Lake Yankton and will undoubtedly be a good town in time, as it is surrounded by a rich country and is thirteen miles from Tracy and fourteen miles from Tyler, so that it will command a fair trade. Several good buildings are already erected there. Mr. Town has up a large hotel building and William Hamm is keeping another hotel. Our former citizen, J. B. Gibbons, has a store there and there is a second store kept by a Scandinavian. The town has also a good school house, good depot, etc. . . . One or two lumber yards complete the business as we saw it in a hurried visit. The town will be a very pretty one in a few years."—Marshall Messenger, October 8, 1880.

favor of incorporation. The election to choose the first officers was held December 27.

The following have served as officials under the Balaton village government:<sup>5</sup>

1892—President, C. W. Candee; trustees, G. Caman, Ed. Whitney, E. R. Weeks; recorder, A. N. Daniels; treasurer, J. N. Westbee; justices, S. W. Galbraith, F. L. Wireck; constable, W. Davy.

1894—President, G. L. Carlaw; trustees, J. H. Call, F. L. Wireck, E. F. Whiting; recorder, A. N. Daniels; treasurer, J. N. Westbee; assessor, A. N. Daniels; justice, B. P. Terry; constables, C. B. Miller, H. R. Searles.

1895—President, E. F. Whiting; trustees, J. H. Call, E. R. Weeks, H. R. Searles; recorder, A. N. Daniels; treasurer, J. N. Westbee; justices, B. P. Terry, G. B. Miller; constables, H. R. Searles, U. Wilhelm.

1896—President, J. H. Call; trustees, O. E. Wilhelm, W. S. Whiting, Charles Bergstrom; recorder, W. H. Estee; treasurer, J. A. Moore; assessor, Charles Germon; justices, D. A. Hardin, A. J. Estee; constable, James Abernathy.

1897—President, C. W. Candee; trustees, R. H. Martin, S. W. Galbraith, W. S. Whiting; recorder, W. H. Estee; treasurer, R. B. Martin; assessor, Charles Germon; justices, A. J. Estee, Charles Bergstrom; constables, Chris Frederickson, U. Wilhelm.

1898—President, C. W. Candee; trustees, R. H. Martin, G. A. Tate, J. N. Westbee; recorder, Charles Germon; treasurer, R. B. Martin; justice, A. S. Town; constable, Chris Frederickson.

1899—President, C. W. Candee; trustees, E. R. Weeks, Jens Knudson, J. N. Westbee; recorder, O. E. Wilhelm; treasurer, H. O. Garlock; assessor, P. W. Giese; justice, Charles Bergstrom; constable, J. A. Penhale.

1900—President, J. N. Westbee; trustees, O. E. Wilhelm, Jens Knudson, S. S. Brockway; recorder, J. H. Carlaw; treasurer, H. O. Garlock; assessor, E. L. McDowell; justice, A. J. Estee; constable, John Hamm.

1901—President, J. N. Westbee; trustees, O. E. Wilhelm, Jens Knudson, S. S. Brockway; recorder, J. H. Carlaw; treasurer, H. O. Garlock.

1902—President, J. N. Westbee; trustees, O. E. Wilhelm, S. S. Brockway, Jens Knudson; recorder, J. H. Carlaw; treasurer, C. W. Candee; assessor, P. W. Giese; justices, B. P. Terry, S. W. Galbraith; constable, A. R. Town.

1903—President, J. N. Westbee; trustees, O. E. Wilhelm, U. Wilhelm, S. S. Brockway; recorder, J. H. Carlaw; treasurer, C. W. Candee;

assessor, L. D. Harrington; justices, A. J. Estee, F. A. Ganser.

1904—President, J. N. Westbee; trustees, E. F. Whiting, Edwin Olson, S. S. Brockway; recorder, O. M. Olson; treasurer, A. M. Moore; assessor, O. E. Wilhelm; justice, A. E. Whiting; constable, F. A. Ganser.

1905—President, G. A. Tate; trustees, E. F. Whiting, U. Wilhelm, C. W. Nord; recorder, O. M. Olson; treasurer, A. M. Moore; assessor, O. E. Wilhelm; justices, B. P. Terry, F. A. Ganser.

1906—President, James Knudson; trustees, John Swan, Julius Meyers, F. S. Bartlett; recorder, E. F. Whiting; treasurer, A. M. Moore; assessor, O. E. Wilhelm.

1907—President, James Murrison; trustees, F. S. Bartlett, Herman Schnell, C. W. Nord; recorder, E. F. Whiting; treasurer, A. M. Moore; assessor, O. E. Wilhelm.

1908—President, James Murrison; trustees, Herman Schnell, F. S. Bartlett, C. W. Nord; recorder, E. F. Whiting; treasurer, A. M. Moore; assessor, O. E. Wilhelm; justice, F. J. Sherry; constable, W. K. Flodine.

1909—President, Herman Schnell; trustees, E. M. Hamm, F. S. Bartlett, S. W. Galbraith; recorder, E. F. Whiting; treasurer, A. M. Moore; assessor, U. Wilhelm; justice, B. P. Terry; constable, E. D. Jewett.

1910—President, Herman Schnell; trustees, F. S. Bartlett, E. M. Hamm, S. W. Galbraith; recorder, E. F. Whiting; treasurer, A. M. Moore; assessor, U. Wilhelm; justices, F. J. Sherry, E. F. Whiting; constables, James Laguer, W. K. Flodine.

1911—President, Herman Schnell; trustees, S. W. Galbraith, F. S. Bartlett, Andrew Johnson; recorder, E. F. Whiting; treasurer, A. M. Moore; assessor, U. Wilhelm; justices, Robert Neill, B. P. Terry; constable, C. R. Livingston.

1912—President, Herman Schnell; trustees, F. S. Bartlett, S. W. Galbraith, C. W. Nord; recorder, E. F. Whiting; treasurer, A. M. Moore; assessor, U. Wilhelm; justice, Robert Neill; constable, R. G. Murrison.

Balaton has not advanced as far as some of the other municipalities of Lyon county, but its growth has been steady and it has developed into a prosperous little business point. The population was 222 in 1895, 209 in 1900, 350 in 1905, and 364 in 1910.

A fire brought a loss of about \$14,000

1895—For, 13; against, 37.  
1896—For, 24; against, 33.  
1897—License by 7 majority.  
1898—For, 25; against, 38.  
1899—For, 35; against, 33.  
1900—For, 33; against, 30.  
1901—License by 7 majority.  
1902—License by 11 majority.  
1903—License by 5 majority.  
1904—For, 49; against, 43.  
1905—Against license by 16 majority.  
1906—Against license by 13 majority.  
1907—Against license by 17 majority.

<sup>5</sup>The license question has brought forth many close contests in Balaton. In 1890-91-92, before the village was incorporated, the question was submitted to the voters of Rock Lake township and each time the no-license advocates were successful. During the twenty years Balaton has been an incorporated municipality licensed saloons have been conducted nine years and the town has been "dry" eleven years. License was granted in 1893, and thereafter until 1908 the matter was decided by vote each year under the local option law. The question has not been granted since 1907 and license has not been granted. Following were the results of the several elections:

1894—For, 41; against, 13.

to Balaton on February 8, 1908. The losses were as follows: James Murrison, stock of hardware and implements, \$6000; O. C. Eng, store building and machine shed, \$2500; Miss Lena Eng, store building, millinery stock and household goods, \$5000; M. L. Stewart, library, \$300.

#### THE SCHOOL.

Balaton was only a few months old when the first school was taught in the spring of 1880. Alice Gibbons was the first instructor and the pupils were L. E. Town, Julius Town, Grace Pierce, George O'Gara, William O'Gara, Nellie O'Gara, Helen Searles and William Glotfelter. The second instructor was C. W. Candee.<sup>6</sup>

The first school house was put up in the fall of 1880 and was in use until the fall of 1892, when it was replaced by a larger structure. That in turn became inadequate and in 1907 the present brick school house was erected at a cost of \$14,000. During several years prior to that time efforts had been made to build and the voters had on several occasions authorized bond issues for the purpose, but because of technical errors the work was not put under way sooner.

About 130 pupils are now enrolled in the Balaton schools, which are in charge of Charles F. Pecholt. The members of the Board of Education are Dr. Charles Germo, secretary; F. J. Breening, treasurer; and Guy Brockway.<sup>7</sup>

#### THE CHURCHES.

The Methodists, Presbyterians, Ger-

man Lutherans and Swedish Lutherans each have societies in Balaton, organized in the order named.

The first religious society in the village was a Free Will Baptist church. It was organized December 19, 1879, with ten members and was formed through the efforts of Rev. C. H. Richardson, of Marshall, and that gentleman was the church's first pastor. A church edifice was erected in the spring of 1889 and was used jointly with the Methodists. The Baptists maintained the organization several years and then the church went out of existence.

The Methodist church was organized in 1880 by Rev. J. N. Liscomb. The initial members were J. W. Hoaglin and wife, J. W. Linderman and wife, E. D. Bartlett, Anna Davie, Emma Crouch, Mrs. W. Pierce and Phoebe Pierce. A parsonage was erected in 1885 and after 1889 services were held in the Baptist church. The present edifice was erected in 1898 and was dedicated December 4 of that year by Presiding Elder Hanscom. The trustees of the Methodist church are James Hall, J. W. Searles, E. D. Bartlett, Willard Pierce, David Swihart, Tolof Olson and Charles Anderson. The pastor is Rev. J. Hanna.<sup>8</sup>

The First Presbyterian Church of Balaton is also one of the older societies of the village. It was organized in the early eighties largely through the efforts of Robert Riddell.<sup>9</sup> The first services of the society were held in the waiting room of the depot by the first pastor,

<sup>6</sup>Among others who have taught in the Balaton schools have been William H. Marshall, Mr. Morton, Frank Cook, Guy Brockway, Mr. Cornwall, Mrs. Ammi Whiting, Charles Glotfelter, L. K. Prouty, Miss Dresser, Nettie Truax, Annie Shand, Anna Robinson, Nels Crouch, Mr. Wheeler, Harry Hilschman, Mary Wiley, Maud Murphy, Gertrude Hunter, Alice Nelson, Maud L. Hubbard, H. W. Gilbertson, Mark L. Stewart, Kate Welch, Floy Fuller, Sarah Donnelly, John Temple, May C. Engler, Lillian Thomas, Charles F. Pecholt, Alta Warner, Ethel Black, Ida Peterson and Mrs. Charles F. Pecholt.

<sup>7</sup>Others who have served as members of the board have been J. A. Moore, Jerry Dickinson, J. K. Penhale,

Louis Campbell, Mrs. A. E. Whiting, Mrs. J. H. Call, S. S. Brockway, Otto Olson, E. F. Whiting and James Murrison.

<sup>8</sup>The following have served as pastors of the Methodist church of Balaton: Revs. I. H. Snell, O. C. Gregg, W. A. Tickner, William Copp, Marquist, Goodrich, D. P. Olin, Webster, H. Jones, C. A. Maine, D. H. Carmichael, S. H. Brown, E. S. Gilbert and J. Hanna.

<sup>9</sup>Those admitted to membership at the time of organization were Messrs. and Mesdames Robert Riddell, William Riddell, A. C. Dresser, James Abernathy, William Livingston, George L. Carlaw, James Murrison and Mrs. Jeanette Carlaw. The first trustees

# BALATON

# SCENES

German Lutheran Church



Across Lake Yankton



Norwegian Lutheran Church



Methodist Church



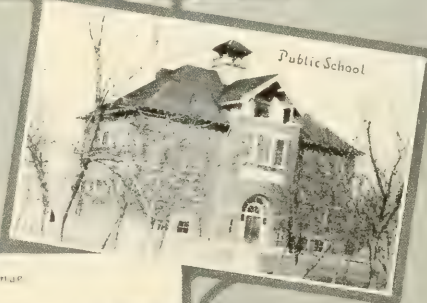
Business Section



Presbyterian Church



Public School



Lake Avenue





Rev. Ransom Wait,<sup>10</sup> and thereafter for some time in the school house. The church was erected in 1885. The corner stone was laid with ceremonies in July by Revs. Gregg, Jamieson and Herrick and the building was dedicated January 10, 1886, by Rev. Wall. The cost of the structure was about \$2000. A parsonage was completed in 1902. The present membership is about 100. The trustees are Dr. Charles Germon, A. M. Moore and J. H. Carlaw.<sup>11</sup>

The German Lutheran society was organized February 8, 1885, and has ever since maintained an active organization.<sup>12</sup> For a few years there was no resident pastor, but since 1888 ministers of the Lutheran faith have resided in Balaton. Rev. R. Poethke occupied the pulpit from 1888 to 1900, Rev. R. Fehlan from 1901 to 1904, and Rev. J. P. Scherf from 1905 to 1912. The church home was erected in 1900 and the parsonage in 1902. Nearly fifty families are now affiliated with the church and the present trustees are C. W. Teufel, F. W. Teufel and William Stibbe. A parochial school is conducted by the pastor.

For several years before the organization of their church the Swedish Lutherans held services occasionally, conducted by visiting clergymen. The

Swedish Evangelical church of Balaton was organized in June, 1907, through the efforts of Rev. Harold Ardahl, pastor of the Sillerud Swedish Lutheran Church of Scandia township, Murray county. Rev. Ardahl has ever since had charge of the Balaton church.<sup>13</sup> For two years the congregation worshipped in the German Lutheran church and in the summer of 1909 a church home was erected at a cost of \$2700. The society now has a membership of about 100 and services are held every other Sunday. The present trustees are Nels Hanson, C. W. Nord and H. A. Anderson and the deacons are Nels Truedsson, A. W. Nelson and John Blomquist.<sup>14</sup>

#### THE LODGES.

The oldest fraternal order of Balaton is the lodge of the Ancient Order United Workmen, which was organized November 4, 1889, with a large membership.<sup>15</sup> The lodge is an active one and has over fifty members. Meetings are held in Westbee Hall. Nonpareil Lodge No. 49, Degree of Honor, was organized September 10, 1895, with ten members.<sup>16</sup> The membership is now forty-seven and meetings are regularly held.

Balaton Camp No. 3821, Modern Woodmen of America, has existed since

were George L. Carlaw, James Murrison and A. C. Dresser. The first elders were Robert Riddell, William Livingston and E. R. Weeks.

<sup>10</sup>Pastors who have occupied the pulpit of the First Presbyterian Church of Balaton have been Revs. Ransom Wait, John N. Williams, G. N. Wodsworth, B. Ball, M. F. Sparks, J. A. Clark, M. A. Linglie, L. McIntyre, G. S. Pinney, J. Russell Jones, Brooks Hitchings, Arthur A. Palmer, Joseph C. Mapson and Robert L. Vance.

<sup>11</sup>In the same charge with the Balaton church is Easter Presbyterian Church of Sodas, with a membership of forty-five. It was organized October 17, 1894, with the following members: Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Neil, Margaret Neil, Elizabeth Neil, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Neil, Euclah Neil, James A. Dick, Mary Ford, Mr. and Mrs. Louis Nelson, Margaret Ford, Agnes Firmage, Jane Ford, Clara D. Thurston and Robert Ford. The first elders were Louis Nelson, Hugh Neil and Robert Ford.

<sup>12</sup>The initial membership of the German Lutheran church was as follows: John Goltz, Gottlieb Goltz, Ludwig Luedke, William Wichmann, August Frost, August Smerling, August Tank, C. W. Teufel, John

Breening, William Loeck, Ludwig Mitzner, Emil Plagens, Julius Mitzner, A. Mitzner, F. W. Teufel, Michael Meyer, Peter Swann, John Swann. The first trustees were Ludwig Ludke, John Breening and William Wichmann.

<sup>13</sup>The first trustees were H. N. Olson, C. W. Nord and H. A. Anderson and the first deacons were Nels Truedsson and John Blomquist.

<sup>14</sup>A Sunday School, organized in 1901, is maintained in connection with the church. Nels Truedsson was the first superintendent. Twenty-five pupils are enrolled and the teachers are Mrs. O. Sandquist, Miss Sadie Nord and Nels Truedsson.

<sup>15</sup>Charter members of the Workmen lodge were J. H. Call, D. F. Sanders, George L. Carlaw, J. P. Estee, R. E. Town, J. A. Moore, W. S. Whiting, G. Wilhelm, Charles Brandt, A. S. Town, J. Dickinson, E. R. Weeks, J. Murrison, T. A. Graham, D. McErlain, G. A. Tate, H. C. Shaffer and H. A. Bates.

<sup>16</sup>The charter members of Nonpareil Lodge were Lillian Tate, Hattie Call, Mary Willford, Eva Moore, Sarah Town, Jeannie A. Graham, Laura Willford, Mabel Whiting, Jane Weeks and Rachael Murrison.

April 27, 1896.<sup>17</sup> Eighty-one members are now on the rolls of the lodge. Lake Yankton Lodge No. 5005, Royal Neighbors of America, was instituted September 27, 1907, with a large initial membership<sup>18</sup> and is still an active order.

#### THE BANKS.

Two banks are conducted in Balaton, the First State Bank and the First National Bank. The former is the older and the successor of the first financial institution of the village.

The Bank of Balaton was established as a private institution in the middle nineties by R. H. Martin & Son and was sold in January, 1899, to H. O. Garlock & Company. It was succeeded in May, 1901, by the First State Bank, which was organized by M. Lauritsen, president; J. N. Westbee, vice president; C. W. Candee, cashier; J. H. Carlaw and Charles Germon. It began life with a capital stock of \$10,000. The banking house was erected in 1901. The present officers of the First State Bank are Charles Germon, president; J. H. Carlaw, vice president; A. M. Moore, cashier; and J. A. Moore, Jr., assistant cashier.

The First National Bank succeeded a state bank organized in 1902. The officers while the institution was operated under a state charter were George A. Tate, president; A. J. Rush, cashier; and N. H. Olson, assistant cashier. The capital stock was \$15,000. The reorganization occurred in June, 1903, when the First National Bank opened for business with a capital stock of \$25,000 and the following officers: George A. Tate, president; August

Swanson, vice president; F. W. Ruliffson, cashier; and U. Wilhelm, assistant cashier. The present commodious banking house was erected in 1909. At the annual meeting of January 30, 1912, a change was made in the management of the bank and the officers are now as follows: James Hall, Sr., president; U. Wilhelm, first vice president; August Swanson, second vice president; F. W. Ruliffson, cashier. The directors are C. M. Hommerberg, August Swanson, H. J. Tillemans, James Hall, U. Wilhelm, L. Redding and N. H. Olson.

#### FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY.

For the purpose of insuring its members against loss by fire or lightning the Western Mutual Fire Insurance Company of Balaton was organized in June, 1894. The incorporators were as follows: A. N. Daniels, who was the first president; J. P. Estee, who served as the first secretary; James Murrison, W. H. Estee, William Livingston, T. J. Skaug, R. R. Roberts, Fred Lochman, A. G. Bumford, Julius Frost, William Klukas, John Goltz, William Teufel, L. Ludke, William Frost, Ludwig Arndt, Julius Mitzner, F. W. Teufel, O. E. Persons, I. N. Harvey, C. W. Candee, Robert Riddell, Evan C. Jones, Charles Livingston and Jerry Dickinson.

The business of the company has grown until late in 1911 the amount of insurance in force was over two and one-quarter million dollars. The present officers and directors are J. A. W. Shand, president; E. M. Hamm, secretary; A. M. Moore, treasurer; L. E. Peterson, J. C. Taylor, William Bruell,

<sup>17</sup>The charter members of the Woodmen lodge were L. L. Cornwell, W. H. Estee, W. Grotfelter, A. Goohall, A. S. Moline, Robert Steele, Nels Stenberg, Nels Wahlgren, E. F. Whiting and E. W. Whiting.

<sup>18</sup>The following were charter members of the Royal Neighbors lodge: Lucy Anderson, Charles R. Anderson, Delbert J. Bailey, J. H. Brening, Wilhelm Bevens, Myrtle E. Beck, Eliza B. Bailey, Blanche A.

Bailey, Emma S. Goltz, Henry Hamm, Mary Hamm, George W. Jones, Martha E. Jones, Sina Knudson, Mathilda Moline, Maggie G. Murrison, Robert Murrison, Katherina Mullaney, Isabella G. Murrison, Elsie Pierce, Hulda Swann, William Swann, Nora Sorenson, Frankie L. Town, Amanda Thompson, Ingue Weede, E. F. Whiting, Emma M. Weede, N. H. Wahlgren, Anna E. Whiting and Eva Whiting.

Robert Neill, P. Johnson and F. H. Fligge. J. P. Estee was the first secretary of the company and he was succeeded for short terms by A. N. Daniels. James Morrison was then elected to the office and served eleven years. He was succeeded by the present secretary, E. M. Hamm.

### RUSSELL.

Lyon county's sixth municipality in point of size is Russell, a village of 262 people, according to the last census. It is a station on the Great Northern railroad and the platted portion is on the south half of section 19, Lyons township. Russell draws trade from quite an extensive and very prosperous territory and as a business point takes rank equal to the other villages of like size in the county.

Russell was founded in 1888 and had its inception as a result of the building of the Willmar & Sioux Falls (Great Northern) railroad. Before the road was built, in the fall of 1887 it became known that one of the stations was to be located there<sup>19</sup> and in May, 1888, the railroad officials announced that the station would be named Russell, after Russell Spicer, son of one of the promoters of the Willmar & Sioux Falls.

The track was laid to the site during the early fall of 1888 and train service was begun a little later. The plat was surveyed by C. L. Van Fleet and was

dedicated by Henry M. Burchard on January 19, 1889. The original plat consisted of only four blocks, divided by First, Second and Third and by River and Front Streets.<sup>20</sup>

During the month of October, 1888, the Northwestern elevator and a section house were erected and about the same time Ephraim Skyhawk put up a two-story building. On the ground floor he opened a little store and he and his family lived on the second floor. Mr. Skyhawk was the pioneer business man of Russell and for some time he and his family were the only residents of the new village. The postoffice was established in February, 1889, and was conducted in Mr. Skyhawk's store.<sup>21</sup>

In March, 1889, Herman Ristow erected a little house and became the second resident of Russell, taking a position as section hand. Albert Ristow, born July 29, 1889, was the first child born in the village. There was practically no advancement during 1889, but the following year several improvements were made.

A. J. Cowie took a position as grain buyer for the Northwestern Elevator Company early in 1890 and sold farm machinery as a side line. The Interstate Grain Company put up a flat house and furnished competition for the pioneer grain firm. During the summer S. W. Galbraith, formerly of Balaton, erected a store building, moved his family to Russell, and engaged in the hardware and grocery business.<sup>22</sup> He

<sup>19</sup>"The fifth station in the county will be Clear Lake, on the center of section 19, town of Lyons, thirteen and one-half miles from Marshall, and here will be another beautiful townsite and the station will be an important one, both in beautiful location and as a shipping place."—Marshall News-Messenger, November 11, 1887.

<sup>20</sup>Additions to Russell have been platted as follows: Addition A, September 7, 1892, by Henry M. Burchard; surveyed by C. L. Van Fleet.

Addition B, September 28, 1893, by Henry M. Burchard; surveyed by O. H. Sterk.

E. Skyhawk's First, December 12, 1896, by Ephraim Skyhawk; surveyed by O. H. Sterk.

Peterson's, July 15, 1901, by Hans Peterson; surveyed by W. A. Hawkins.

Bengtson's, August 23, 1910, by John Bengtson; surveyed by O. H. Sterk.

<sup>21</sup>Russell has had only two postmasters. Ephraim Skyhawk served from the time of establishment in February, 1889, until 1896, and F. S. Purdy from that date to the present time.

One rural route is operated from the Russell office. It was established February 4, 1904, and G. H. Thurston was the carrier until 1907. He was succeeded by Charles O. Johnson, the present carrier.

<sup>22</sup>"Sam Galbraith, of Balaton, is locating in Russell, where he is building a store. Hereafter when Eph. Skyhawk comes to Marshall he will not have to lock up the town during his absence."—Marshall News-Messenger, September 26, 1890.

remained only about a year and then sold to William Buel.<sup>23</sup> In the fall of 1890 a little shack of a building was brought to the station on a flat car and for several years was used as the depot. Late in the same season Fellows Brothers opened a feed mill and a little later a blacksmith shop.

A harness shop was opened in 1891 and a pool hall was started, which a little later was replaced by a hardware store. During the same season three residences were erected. In the spring of 1892 A. A. Fifield put up buildings and opened a lumber yard and later in the same season Scott Carlisle built and opened to the public the first hotel. Before the close of the year ten more dwelling houses were put up and Russell began to take on the appearance of a thriving little village.

The hard times of 1893 interrupted progress to some extent, although a few residences were erected and a pool hall was started. A church was organized that fall. The Marshall News-Messenger of November 3, 1893, said: "Russell has a dozen stores, hotel, two elevators, lumber yard, etc. Russell is a wheat market from the word go and this fall has shipped to Minneapolis seventy cars."

More business enterprises were established in 1894. In May a large two-story double store building was erected and Messrs. Fawcett and E. L. Cross established stores. Dr. Treat located in the village for the practice of his profession. Several residences were erected, there were a few changes of ownership of the business establish-

ments, and a few other enterprises were started. A creamery was built in 1895.

In 1896 Messrs. Chamberlain & Hicks put up a building and engaged in the general merchandise business. F. S. Purdy erected another building in which he established a hardware store and kept the postoffice. The upbuilding of the little town was rapid during the prosperous days of the late nineties and there came a demand for local government.

So early as January, 1895, an effort was made to secure incorporation and meetings were held with that object in view. No decisive action was taken, however. In December, 1896, the residents claimed a population of 180 for Russell and there was again talk of asking for municipal government. In the summer of 1898 those interested pushed the matter to a successful conclusion. The petition asking for an election to decide the question was favorably acted upon by the county law-making body July 18, 1898, and August 30 was the date set for holding the election. F. S. Purdy, R. A. Bigham and C. W. Hicks were named inspectors of the first election. Those favoring incorporation were successful by a majority of three votes. For the selection of the first village officers the election was held in Workmen Hall on September 13.

Following is the roster of village officers from the time of incorporation to the present:<sup>24</sup>

1898—President, Ephraim Skyhawk; trustees, E. Smith, J. W. Andrews, R. G. Webb; recorder, J. P. Peterson; treasurer, H. W. B. Harden;

1903—For, 32; against, 34.  
 1904—For, 28; against, 37.  
 1905—Against license carried.  
 1906—Against license carried.  
 1907—Against license by 3 majority.  
 1908—License carried.  
 1909—Against license by 20 majority.  
 1910—For, 25; against, 34.  
 1911—For, 42; against, 26.  
 1912—For, 47; against, 29.

<sup>23</sup>The death of May Belle, infant daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William Buel, was the first in Russell.

<sup>24</sup>The license question has been an issue at nearly every local election. During 1898 and 1899 no vote was taken and license was granted. Since then the results of the elections under the local option law have been as follows:

1900—For, 17; against, 14.  
 1901—License carried.  
 1902—License carried.

# RUSSELL SCENES

Catholic Church.



Public School



Main Street



Birdseye View



Presbyterian Church





justices, F. S. Purdy, S. J. Smith; constables, M. H. Hanks, A. R. Carlisle.

1899—President, J. W. Hipple; trustees, R. G. Webb, O. S. Carlisle, Herman Ristow; recorder, J. P. Peterson; treasurer, H. W. B. Harden; assessor, William Daffier; justice, J. J. Schulte; constables, M. F. May, Ed. Nichols.

1900—President, J. W. Andrews; trustees, R. G. Webb, R. A. Bigham, S. W. Fellows; recorder, J. P. Peterson; treasurer, H. W. B. Harden; assessor, M. F. May; justices, F. S. Purdy, G. O. Rask; constable, A. F. Wheeler.

1901—President, G. O. Rask; trustees, E. O. Webster, H. C. Hanson, A. H. Minnick; recorder, E. Smith; treasurer, M. F. Cadwell; assessor, T. H. Conners; justice, E. Haase; constable, C. H. Bosteder.

1902—President, E. Metcalf; trustees, Hans Peterson, R. A. Bigham, A. E. Engberg; recorder, W. J. Huddleston; treasurer, M. F. Cadwell; assessor, J. M. Ryan; justices, C. P. Eastman, G. H. Thurston; constables, A. F. Wheeler, J. E. Jones.

1903—President, F. P. Willard; trustees, Hans Peterson, R. A. Bigham, H. W. B. Harden; recorder, W. J. Huddleston; treasurer, G. W. Cochrane; assessor, D. S. Phillips; constable, A. R. Carlisle.

1904—President, R. A. Bigham; trustees, H. W. B. Harden, D. S. Phillips, A. E. Engberg; recorder, W. J. Huddleston; treasurer, G. S. Willard; assessor, A. N. Daniels; justices, C. P. Eastman, F. S. Purdy; constable, F. G. Sage.

1905—President, R. A. Bigham; trustees, D. S. Phillips, E. L. Hall, A. E. Engberg; recorder, W. J. Huddleston; treasurer, G. S. Willard; assessor, Hans Peterson.

1906—President, R. A. Bigham; trustees, E. L. Hall, W. D. Hackett, Ephraim Skyhawk; recorder, F. S. Purdy; treasurer, G. S. Willard; assessor, Hans Peterson; justices, F. S. Purdy, T. D. Knapp.

1907—President, R. A. Bigham; trustees, Ephraim Skyhawk, P. Kavanaugh, W. D. Hackett; recorder, F. S. Purdy; treasurer, E. Smith; assessor, Hans Peterson; constables, E. G. Loring, R. E. Jones.

1908—President, D. S. Phillips; trustees, L. G. Wallin, T. J. Willfong, Ephraim Skyhawk; recorder, J. N. Jones; treasurer, E. Smith.

1909—President, E. L. Hall; trustees, L. G. Wallin, William Murphy, E. G. Loring; recorder, J. N. Jones; treasurer, E. Smith; assessor, Hans Peterson; constables, F. G. Sage, A. R. Carlisle.

1910—President, E. L. Hall; trustees, G. H. Walker, L. G. Wallin, A. R. Carlisle; recorder, R. A. Bigham; treasurer, J. B. Williams.

1911—President, E. L. Hall; trustees, L. G. Wallin, A. R. Carlisle, G. H. Walker; recorder, R. A. Bigham; treasurer, J. B. Williams; assessor, Hans Peterson; justice, F. E. Child.

1912—President, E. L. Hall; trustees, L. G. Wallin, G. H. Walker, R. E. Benson; recorder, F. E. Child; treasurer, J. B. Williams; assessor,

Hans Peterson; justices, F. S. Purdy, E. Smith; constable, E. G. Loring.

The growth of Russell has not been great, but it has been substantial and the village has never taken a backward step. The population in 1905 was 275 and the census of 1910 gave it a population of 262.

Russell has had one serious conflagration in its history. On the night of June 25, 1907, the fire fiend brought a loss of \$8000. The hotel owned by William Murphy and leased to J. N. Jones, the hotel barn, the meat markets owned by Erick Bergman and George Beasley and two ice houses adjoining were destroyed.

#### THE SCHOOL.

Russell has a first-class school, which has been maintained for the last twenty-two years. The first building was a little structure erected in 1890. A few years later the voters of the district authorized a \$2500 bond issue, the bonds were sold, and the present building was put up.

#### THE CHURCHES.

Two church societies are maintained in Russell, the Presbyterian and the Catholic.

The first Presbyterian church erected in Lyon county was located in Lyons township, not far from the future village of Russell. It was erected in 1873 and before a society of that denomination was organized in the village the people of Russell attended that church.<sup>25</sup>

The first religious society in Russell was the Presbyterian Sunday School, organized with about fifty members in

<sup>25</sup>The pioneer Presbyterian church was many miles from any settlement when it was built and for a score of years it was the place of worship of the people inhabiting a large scope of country. The church was

built by Rev. Ransom Wait, the pioneer Presbyterian minister of the county. It was sold on February 10, 1894, to satisfy a mortgage of \$400 held by the Presbyterian Church Extension Society.

May, 1891, in S. W. Galbraith's new store building. Rev. L. McIntyre, of Balaton, and Superintendent Knutsen, of the Mankato Presbytery, were the organizers. Meetings were held in private homes, in the depot, and later in the little school house.

Steps were early taken to effect a church organization and on May 14, 1891, Rev. N. H. Bell, superintendent of churches for the Presbytery, and Rev. John Sinclair visited the place to look the field over. Prior to that time \$400 had been raised by subscription toward a church building and the church authorities promised to assist in the organization of a church and the erection of a building. It was not until 1894, however, that these things were accomplished.

In November, 1893, Rev. J. W. Hood began holding services in Russell and the following February he and his sister, Miss Bella Hood, held evangelistic services there. As a result the Russell Presbyterian church was organized with thirty-six members. Rev. Hood was installed as pastor in June, 1894, having charge also of the church in Island Lake township.<sup>26</sup> The following fall a church home, 30x50 feet, was completed and dedicated practically free from debt.

#### THE LODGES.

The Ancient Order United Workmen, Degree of Honor, Modern Woodmen of

America, Royal Neighbors of America and the Masonic orders are represented in Russell.

The oldest of the fraternal orders is the Workmen lodge, which was organized June 22, 1897, with ten charter members.<sup>27</sup> The lodge now has a membership of fifty and owns a lodge building.

Russell Lodge No. 138, Degree of Honor, was organized January 25, 1899. It now has sixty-four members and meets regularly in Woodmen Hall.<sup>28</sup>

The Modern Woodmen of America lodge began its existence on November 13, 1900, with twelve members,<sup>29</sup> which has been increased to sixty-six at the present time.

The Royal Neighbors lodge has existed since August 24, 1904,<sup>30</sup> and now has fifty active members.

Coteau Lodge, A. F. & A. M., began its existence under dispensation in 1901. A charter was granted by the grand lodge in January, 1902, and the lodge was regularly constituted March 19 of the same year.<sup>31</sup> The order now has fifty-seven members.

#### THE BANK.

The First State Bank of Russell is the successor of the first banking house of the village, a private bank denominated the Bank of Russell. D. S. Phillips was president and G. W.

A. H. Minnick, R. R. Sibley, William H. Potts, G. S. Willard and John Mattsson.

<sup>26</sup>Rev. J. W. Hood was pastor of the Russell church until February 12, 1903. He has been succeeded in turn by the following: Revs. Davies, C. D. Van Wagner, A. E. Evans, J. A. Lumley, H. P. Gray and T. C. Hill.

<sup>27</sup>The charter members of the Workmen lodge were M. S. Fawcett, M. F. Cadwell, Jay Peterson, R. A. Bigham, F. S. Purdy, Hans Peterson, Frank Zvorak, C. W. Wilson, Ernest Smith and Ephraim Skyhawk.

<sup>28</sup>The present office holders of the Degree of Honor lodge are Florence Hall, Nina Bueckhardt, Sadie Roberts, Augusta Purdy, Mabel Hackett, Lucinda Bigham, Lurline Johnson, Carrie Hanson, Ida Bergman, Ellen Larson, James Zvorak, Grace Johnson and Stella Carlaw.

<sup>29</sup>The charter members of the Woodmen lodge were A. L. Blanchard, C. M. Wilson, E. Z. Retzlaff, John A. Johnson, A. C. Rice, A. E. Wunderlich, M. G. Sparks,

<sup>30</sup>The charter members of the Royal Neighbors lodge were Kate Jones, John A. Johnson, Mary B. Rice, Margaret Bergman, Emma Bergman, Mary E. Owens, Anna A. Wilson, Sarah Moore, Margaret Willard, Kate E. Marsden, C. S. Willard, Charles Burt, Teresa Blanchard, C. Wilson, Guy Walker, Hugh Walker, E. L. Hall, Lucy Jones, L. Holden, W. S. Morgan, Effie Buell, Mrs. E. Burt, Kate Holden, Viola Thurston, Nellie Hipple, D. S. Owens and Gertrude Blanchard.

<sup>31</sup>The charter members of Coteau Lodge were Jacob Rouse, F. S. Purdy, M. F. Cadwell, J. W. Andrews, F. P. Willard, W. D. Hackett, A. Holden, Ephraim Skyhawk, E. Metcalf, E. Smith, W. E. West, G. W. Cochrane, C. P. Eastman, Nels Rossen, Hans Peterson and R. A. Bigham.

Cochrane cashier of the pioneer institution. The First State Bank was organized January 1, 1903, to continue the business and had a capital stock of \$15,000. Among the incorporators were J. G. Schutz, C. B. Tyler, D. D. Forbes, V. B. Seward, J. C. Burchard and J. C. Lawrence, of Marshall, and D. S. Phillips and Hans Peterson, of Russell. The officers were as follows: E. N. Bailey, president; J. H. Tate, vice president; G. W. Cochrane, cashier.

A controlling interest in the First

State Bank was purchased in February, 1906, by C. H. Ross and W. E. C. Ross. The officers then became C. H. Ross, president; W. E. C. Ross and M. K. Simmons, vice presidents; and G. S. Willard, cashier. Upon the death of Mr. Willard in 1908 B. Leknes became cashier and J. B. Williams assistant cashier. The directors of the bank are C. H. Ross, W. E. C. Ross, M. K. Simmons, B. Leknes and George Olson. The home of the bank was erected in 1908.



## CHAPTER XV.

### GHEENT AND TAUNTON—1878-1912.

NOT far from where the Northwestern railroad crosses Three-Mile creek, on the northwest quarter of section 15, Grandview township, seven miles northwest of Marshall, is the little village of Ghent. Its elevation above sea level is 1173 feet and its population 210. Ghent is the trading point for a populous and thrifty community, made up for the most part of Belgian and French settlers, and is one of the most progressive little villages of Lyon county.

When the Winona & St. Peter (now the Northwestern) railroad was built in 1872 that part of Lyon county northwest from Marshall was thinly settled, but there were a few homesteaders near the point where the new road crossed Three-Mile creek and they made an effort to have a station located at the crossing. Conditions warranted the establishment of only one station in Lyon county at that time, the settlers near the crossing of the Redwood made a more active campaign, and the railroad officials located the station there instead of at Three-Mile creek. Thus the lead-

ing town and county seat of Lyon county became Marshall instead of a city planted where Ghent stands today.

In time more settlers located in the vicinity of the crossing of Three-Mile creek, and to furnish them mail facilities a postoffice was established early in 1874. It was named Grandview, after the township, and Harrison A. Irish, a homesteader on section 14, was the postmaster. The office, supplied from Marshall, was maintained for a couple of years and was then discontinued, to be re-established at a later time.<sup>1</sup>

It is the village of Grandview with which we have to deal in chronicling the early history of Ghent, for prior to 1881 that is the name the village bore. Grandview was founded in the spring of 1878. In April of that year A. P. Ray erected a store building and engaged in the grocery business. The venture was not a success and the store was discontinued in October. The Grandview townsite was platted by the railroad company on July 5, 1878, the survey having been made by Arthur Jacobi.<sup>2</sup>

J. M. Vaughn bought grain at Grand-

postmaster from 1894 to 1902 and Mrs. Matilda Blodgett has since held the office.

<sup>2</sup>Twenty blocks were included in the plat. The streets running northwest and southeast were named Green, Barber, McQuestion and Burlingame; those northeast and southwest, Bladwin, English, Chapman, Loomis and Maskell. There have been no additions platted.

<sup>1</sup>The Grandview office—the predecessor of the Ghent office—was re-established in 1878 with J. M. Vaughn as postmaster. During the year of its establishment it was kept in the store of A. P. Ray and was then moved to the home of Mr. Vaughn, two and one-half miles northwest of the village. It was moved to the station in January, 1881, and a little later the name was changed to Ghent. R. F. Laythe became postmaster and was succeeded by Mr. Capistrand, who left in the summer of 1883. Aime Van Hee served as

view during the seasons of 1878 and 1879 for Van Dusen & Company, and for some time after the closing of the Ray store that was the only enterprise on the site, and that did not boast a building to shelter it. Although the site had been platted and some business enterprises had been started previously, the practical founding of Grandview came in 1880. That year the first of the Catholic colony located in the vicinity and supplied the stimulus for the building of a village.

During 1880 Van Dusen & Company erected a grain warehouse and John Fodness was employed as grain buyer; Jerry Fagan, one of the colonists, opened a store but closed it the next year; William Heinmiller engaged in the blacksmith business; Burl Story moved a little shack from his homestead and kept boarders, also erecting a barn; one of the residents also sold lumber at the youthful village. While this list of improvements for 1880 cannot be considered large, a start had been made and Grandview was placed on the map. A correspondent to the *Marshall Messenger* of December 17, 1880, wrote: "We don't look for a city here very soon but hope to see more business done at our station hereafter than in the past. . . . Six months ago there was not one individual living in this village; now we have seven buildings."

Progress continued during 1881, due principally to the arrival of a large number of Belgian colonists. A depot was erected during the summer and Mr. King installed as agent, a telegraph office being added in September. The same month, upon the petition of residents, the name of the postoffice was changed from Grandview to Ghent,<sup>3</sup>

<sup>3</sup>"This lively little place has changed its name to Ghent. It is growing and bids fair to be quite a village."—Ghent Correspondent to *Marshall Messenger*, September 22, 1881.

named after the city in Belgium, and the station was later also given the new name. Burl Story erected a hotel building and founded the Ghent House. R. F. Laythe put up a building and engaged in the general merchandise business, selling out later to Capistrand & Soucheray. A Mr. Hayden opened another store the same season. John Fodness erected an 18x26 feet store building and one of the colonists built a dwelling house.

In the spring of 1882 a Ghent citizen wrote that the village had a population of 125 and that the business enterprises consisted of one general store, a hotel, blacksmith shop, elevator and lumber yard. A few changes in the ownership of business houses were made in 1883. Capistrand & Soucheray bought the R. F. Laythe store in March and three months later Mr. Soucheray became sole proprietor. In December Emilien Paradis bought the Jerry Fagan store building and engaged in the general merchandise business. In 1884 Francis Gits opened a hotel and tinware shop, Mr. Vergote a blacksmith shop, and Mr. Cool a carpenter and wagon shop. In 1885 Youmans Brothers & Hodgins established a lumber yard.

There was no boom connected with the growth of Ghent and at no time did it develop beyond the demands of the surrounding farming country. A special census taken on March 14, 1899, showed a population of 182. It was at that time that the residents asked for incorporation.<sup>4</sup>

A petition asking for the incorporation of the northwest quarter of section 15, Grandview township, as the village of Ghent was filed with the county auditor March 28, 1899. It was signed

<sup>4</sup>A petition for incorporation had been presented to the County Board in the spring of 1897, but that body had refused to act on the same.

by thirty-two voters.<sup>5</sup> The County Board granted the request of the residents of Ghent and named May 15, 1899, as the date for voting on the question. A. H. Lerschen, Alois Bergeron and A. J. Paal were inspectors of the initial election. Of the twenty-five votes cast, every one was in favor of beginning municipal government. The first officers were chosen May 29, 1899.

Following are the names of those who have been elected to office since Ghent was incorporated:<sup>6</sup>

1899—President, Francis Gits; trustees, George I. Regnier, B. Brouwer, Alois Bergeron; recorder, Joseph Letourneau; treasurer, Joseph Deutz; justices, James Meaghan, Constant Dirckx; constables, Louis Vermeersch, August Dolieslager.

1900—President, Francis Gits; trustees, Charles Foulon, Alois Bergeron, B. Brouwer; recorder, Joseph Letourneau; treasurer, Joseph Kemna; assessor, A. A. Regnier; justices, James Meaghan, G. I. LeBeau; constables, Jules Van Hee, Louis Vermeersch.

1901—President, A. H. Lerschen; trustees, Charles Foulon, B. Brouwer, James Meaghan; recorder, Joseph Letourneau; treasurer, Joseph Kemna; assessor, A. A. Regnier; justices, Peter Elbers, John Cavanaugh.

1902—President, A. H. Lerschen; trustees, James Meaghan, Peter Wessels, G. I. LeBeau; recorder, Charles Foulon; treasurer, Joseph Kemna; assessor, G. I. Regnier; justices, Fred Lerschen, Adolph Overbeke; constable, Gus Rouse.

1903—President, A. H. Lerschen; trustees, James Meaghan, Peter Wessels, Alphonse Cyr; recorder, Charles Foulon; treasurer, Aime Van Hee; assessor, G. I. Regnier; justice, H. Princen; constables, G. I. Regnier, Adolph Overbeke.

1904—President, A. H. Lerschen; trustees, G. I. LeBeau, Francis Gits, Alphonse Cyr; recorder, John Cavanaugh; treasurer, Aime Van Hee; assessor, A. A. Regnier; justice, Fred Lerschen; constable, Arthur Gits.

1905—President, A. H. Lerschen; trustees, G. I. LeBeau, Alphonse Cyr, Joseph Kemna; recorder, John Cavanaugh; treasurer, Ed. Gits; assessor, Alex Lord; justice, C. Van Winsberghe; constable, C. H. Monroe.

1906—President, Peter Albers; trustees, Edward Schreiber, H. J. Bot, B. Dolander; recorder, Ed. Gits; treasurer, Aime Van Hee; assessor, C. Van Winsberghe; justice, Robert Stelter; constables, Leopold Flaeys, A. Van Uden.

<sup>5</sup>The signers of the incorporation petition were A. H. Lerschen, Alois Bergeron, A. J. Paal, J. W. Lerschen, Frank Cotterell, Joe Lerschen, Adolph Goyette, Peter Elbers, L. L. Yalb, Evan Alsint, H. C. Ohlsen, Aime A. Van Hee, August Dolieslager, Cornelius Bontsen, Peter Cloutre, Joseph Deutz, C. L. Pierce, Charles Foulon, J. D. Letourneau, Fred Rilladeau, John Gossen, Gustave Van Hee, A. J. Van den Steurel, J. S. Letourneau, Es von Altvorst, James

1907—President, Charles Foulon; trustees, G. J. Inhofer, Edward Schreiber, Louis Vermeersch; recorder, Edward Robinson; treasurer, Aime Van Hee; assessor, C. Van Winsberghe.

1908—President, Charles Foulon; trustees, Edward Schreiber, G. J. Inhofer, Louis Vermeersch; recorder, Theodore Sanders; treasurer, H. J. Bot; assessor, C. Van Winsberghe; justice, H. J. Bot; constable, Emile Loessaert.

1909—President, Charles Foulon; trustees, Celeste Ampe, G. J. Inhofer, Arthur Gits; recorder, Theodore Sanders; treasurer, H. J. Bot; assessor, C. Van Winsberghe; justice, Hero W. Bot.

1910—President, Charles Foulon; trustees, Arthur Gits, Henry Lord, Celeste Ampe; recorder, G. J. Inhofer; treasurer, H. J. Bot; justices, H. J. Bot, Louis Vermeersch; constables, Emile Loessaert, Mike Stassen.

1911—President, Charles Foulon; trustees, Louis Vermeersch, Henry Lord, Arthur Gits; recorder, H. J. Bot; treasurer, John Bankers; justice, S. A. Walrath; constable, Emile Loessaert.

1912—President, Charles Foulon; trustees, Henry Lord, H. M. Maertens, Celeste Ampe; recorder, H. J. Bot; treasurer, Ed. Gits; assessor, C. Van Winsberghe; justices, Mike Stassen, S. A. Walrath; constable, H. Mortier.

The federal census of 1900 gave Ghent a population of 119. There has been an increase since that time, the population in 1905 having been 193, and in 1910 it was 210. The village has progressed in a business way and is admittedly one of the best of the smaller municipalities of Lyon county.

#### THE SCHOOL.

For a number of years after the founding of Ghent the nearest school was more than a mile from the village. The first school taught in the village was under the direction of Father Y. Devos. He established a free school for the education of the children and to teach the many foreign born residents the English language. Miss Hannah Lester was the teacher.

Upon the request of the residents of Ghent, school district No. 67 was formed

Meaghan, Louis Vermeersch, Constant Dirckx, Theodore Stassen, Francis Gits, B. Brouwer and Finans Bil.

<sup>6</sup>At the Grandview township election of March, 1899, the license question was decided negatively by the voters, and that fact led to the incorporation of the village. The license question has never been submitted to vote since incorporation and saloons have always been licensed.

and a public school established. Francis Gits was treasurer and B. Brouwer director of the district when it was organized.<sup>7</sup> The first teacher was Stephen Walrath<sup>8</sup> and the pupils of the first public school were Ed. Gits, Arthur Gits, Clemence Gits, Victor Gits, Joseph Princen, Fred Green, Theodore Thomas, Minnie Thomas, Harry Regnier, John Cavanaugh, Morris Breen and John Breen. Thirty-five pupils are now enrolled in the Ghent school. Sister Loyale is the teacher.

#### THE CHURCH.

Ghent was founded by and the tributary country settled almost entirely by Catholics and the church of that faith in the little village is one of the strongest in Southwestern Minnesota. The church of St. Eloi is the only one in Ghent.

The beginning of the Catholic church of Ghent was in June, 1883, when Father Y. Devos accompanied a large number of colonists from the old country and was assigned to the charge at Ghent. The pastor said mass for the first time soon after his arrival and the church was organized.<sup>9</sup> The congregation was not strong enough to erect a house of worship at once and until the church home was secured services were held respectively at the home of Angelus Van Hee, the store of Mr. Soucheray, the home of Francis Gits, and the railroad depot.<sup>10</sup>

<sup>7</sup>The present members of the Board of Education are George LeBeau, clerk; Charles Foulon, treasurer; and C. Van Winsberghe, director. They have served for the past six years.

<sup>8</sup>Other teachers of the Ghent school have been Ora Loomis, Samuel Rank, Mr. Gouler, Katie Shortell, Kate Lynch, Kate Ahern and Sisters Ligouri and Loyale, of the Sisters of St. Joseph.

<sup>9</sup>The following named persons and their families constituted the membership of the church at the time of organization: Angelus Van Hee, Francis Gits, Charles Foulon, Mrs. Bruno Van Hee, David Van Hee, Francis DeSutter, Desere Van de Woesteen, Gustav Vergote, Leo DeCock, Peter Buysse, Henry Maertens, Felix DeReu, Mrs. Van den Abeele, John Cavanaugh, Matthew Schreiber, Theodore Caron, Isaac Regnier, Isaac Patenode, Joseph Regnier, Anton Paradis, Sr., Anton Paradis, Jr., Victor LeBeau, J. D. Letourneau,

The first church was erected in 1885 through the efforts of Father Devos.<sup>11</sup> Later a house and barn were added to the church property. The frame church building erected in 1885 was used by the congregation until January 1, 1902, when it and the priest's house were destroyed by fire, bringing a loss of \$12,000.

The present brick church—the finest church edifice in Lyon county—was erected in 1904 and 1905. The corner stone was laid June 9, 1904, by Rev. Father Walsh, assisted by eight prelates. The building was dedicated by Archbishop John Ireland May 30, 1905. The cost was \$30,000 and it was dedicated with a debt of less than \$7000 against it. About \$22,000 had been raised in the parish during the year preceding its completion. The building committee that supervised its construction was composed of Messrs. Breen, Regnier, Foulon, Maertens, Bot, Cavanaugh, Gits and Engels. The parsonage was erected in 1905 at a cost of \$6000.

The present membership of the Ghent church is 1000, comprising 140 families. Of these 140 families, twenty-two are French-Canadian, five German, four Irish, and the rest Belgian and Holland. The present church trustees are Francis Gits and J. Van Keulen.

A convent and school is maintained in connection with the church. It was established in 1893 and the convent

J. A. Letourneau, Mr. Lambert and Mr. Soucheray. The first trustees were Francis Gits, Anton Paradis and Angelus Van Hee.

<sup>10</sup>In an article prepared by Father Y. Devos in 1884 was the following concerning the Ghent church: "There are few congregations where so many languages are spoken. When he addresses the people the pastor has to speak in Flemish, French, English and German. The Latin used in divine office is the only common language which is generally understood by all. As soon as they hear the Latin language, which they heard in their younger days and in their distant Fatherland, they feel themselves at home in their old church and they are very happy to see and hear the pious ceremonies of their worship."

<sup>11</sup>Other pastors of the church at Ghent have been Fathers DeCueninck, Straten, Jansen, Keuelinck, Van den Heuvel, Schaefer, Walsh and Van Wallegheem.

# GHENT SCENES

West Main Street



East Main Street



St. Mary's Church



Catholic Church & Parsonage



THE NEW YORK  
PUBLIC LIBRARY

ASTOR LENOX  
TILDEN FOUNDATION

building was erected in 1898 at a cost of \$6000. An addition of equal cost is now proposed. About 125 pupils receive instruction in the school. Mother Evelyn, of the Sisters of St. Joseph, is the mother superior and she has three assistants.

#### THE LODGES.

Ghent Court No. 1081, Catholic Order of Foresters, was organized March 19, 1900,<sup>12</sup> and has had a prosperous existence. The lodge now has a membership of forty-two. The principal officers are Henry Lord, Ed. Gits, Charles Foulon, A. D. Schaefer and Theodore Stassen.

Camp No. 6617, Modern Woodmen of America, began its existence July 14, 1906, with twenty-six charter members.<sup>13</sup> The present membership is twenty and the principal officers are as follows: Emile Loessaert, E. F. St. Denis, E. Schutyser, John Stassen, Charles Popelier and E. Schreiber.

#### THE FIRE DEPARTMENT.

The Ghent Fire Department was organized February 15, 1903. Of the following named first members of the department only the five first named are still members: George I. LeBeau, Ed. Gits, Ed. Schreiber, Theodore Stassen, J. I. Rhodes, Anton Lerschen, Hector Hofman, A. D. Schaefer, A. J. Lord and Arthur Gits.

The equipment consists of a Watrous gas engine, hose cart and 1500 feet of hose. There are now twenty-eight members and the officers are as follows: George Inhofer, chief; H. Maertens, assistant chief; Charles Foulon, president;

A. D. Schaefer, vice president; E. F. St. Denis, secretary; William C. Hess, treasurer; George LeBeau, Earl Schreiber and J. I. Rhodes, finance committee.

#### THE BANK.

One banking institution, the First State Bank of Ghent, is conducted in the village. It is the successor of the first banking house, a private institution denominated the Bank of Ghent, which was organized with a capital of \$5000 on March 23, 1903. The first officers and board of directors were as follows: John E. Burchard, president; John Breen, vice president; Charles Foulon, cashier; D. D. Forbes and M. W. Harden.

In 1908 the Bank of Ghent was re-organized under the state banking laws with a paid-up capital of \$10,000. The present officers and directors are M. W. Harden, president; John Breen, vice president; Charles Foulon, cashier; V. B. Seward and John A. Brewers. The elegant banking house, which with the fixtures cost \$7500, was erected in 1905. The business of the institution has steadily increased, and according to a statement made May 30, 1911, the deposits were \$145,000 and there was a surplus of \$3000.

#### TAUNTON.

The smallest of the incorporated villages of Lyon county is Taunton. It is a station of the Northwestern railroad and is in the extreme northwestern corner of the county, on section 17, Eidsvold township. The population in

<sup>12</sup>The charter members of Ghent Court were Charles Foulon, A. H. Lerschen, Peter Elbers, George I. Regnier, Theodore Stassen, Leo Henen, Camille DeSutter, Jacob Stassen, George DeMeyer, John Cavanaugh, J. W. Lerschen, A. J. Paul, A. Cyr, A. Van Overbeke, J. A. Gossen, August Maertens, F. J. Lerschen, H. M. Maertens, G. Schreiber and John Gossen.

<sup>13</sup>The charter members of the Woodmen camp were Edward F. St. Denis, Aime Van Hee, Levi St. Peter, Herman Pillotte, Henry Paradis, David Paradis, Bernard Nash, Arthur Gits, Emile Loessaert, Joe Pillotte, H. J. Bot, Levi Prairie, A. Regnier, J. A. Regnier, J. E. Regnier, Teler Charbanan, J. I. Regnier, P. E. Regnier, Ed. Schreiber, Ed. Schutyser, Robert Stelter, W. Van Sadelhof, H. E. Regnier, T. F. Sanders, Phil Paradis and Robert Didrich.

1910 was 205. While Taunton has not become a metropolis, it has furnished a convenient market for the people of the surrounding country and has developed into a prosperous little village.

Until 1885 the site of Taunton was bare of improvements. That year the railroad company built a side-track there and the site became known as Siding No. 4. In the fall of 1885 Marfield & Company put up a warehouse and J. P. Tumelty bought grain for the firm at the new station.

The second building on the site was put up by Fred Smuhl, who conducted a small grocery store and became postmaster.<sup>14</sup> In April, 1886, the village was platted and "Siding No. 4" became Taunton. The plat was surveyed by C. C. Pudor and the dedication was made April 30 by Albert Keep, as president of the Winona & St. Peter Railroad Company. Only two blocks were platted. The streets were named First, Second, Garfield, Main and Lincoln.<sup>15</sup>

Turner & Brenna established a warehouse in 1890 and divided the grain business with Marfield & Company. In the summer of 1892 Nick Grengs erected a building and opened a general store. He sold the next year to E. H. Carstens, who still carries on the business. The Catholic church was built in 1895 and the same year residences were put up by Philip Ahern and Fred Smuhl. A few more improvements were made in 1896<sup>16</sup>

and Youmans Brothers & Hodgins established a lumber yard, but Taunton still occupied a very small place on the map of Lyon county.

The year of greatest growth in Taunton's history was 1898, when Franz Anthony opened a general store, Allen Lester a hardware store, Amund Huseby a hotel, and a few others engaged in business. A resident of the village, writing to the Marshall News-Messenger of December 9, 1898, gave the following description of Taunton and its standing:

In your paper of November 25 you speak of Taunton as a railroad station with but half a dozen or less buildings. You have a mistaken idea of the size of our town. Taunton has about 100 inhabitants. We have thirty business and dwelling houses; we have three firms buying grain, two elevators and one warehouse; we have a lumber yard which does a good business; three general stores and one hardware store, all doing a good business; we also have one restaurant and one boarding house and two blacksmith shops. And at present there are three gangs of carpenters busy every day, and there will be several new buildings added to the list.

The prosperous times of the late nineties brought several new enterprises to the little village and in the spring of 1900 a census showed a population of 184 people living on the 1730 acres of land which it was proposed to incorporate as the village of Taunton.

Forty-nine residents of Taunton on May 1, 1900, petitioned the county authorities for village government.<sup>17</sup> The County Board took favorable action that day and named W. S. Baldwin, P. P. Ahern and J. H. Pennington in-

a lumber yard, grain warehouse and stockyards."—Minneota Mascot, November 28, 1896.

<sup>14</sup>The postoffice was first named Lonesome, later became Rippon, and in 1885 was changed to Taunton. Fred Smuhl was postmaster from 1886 to 1896 and E. H. Carstens from that time until 1906. Anton Heymans, Annie Ahern and Mary Francoviak had charge of the office for short periods during 1906 and 1907. W. S. Baldwin became postmaster December 24, 1907, and has since held the office.

Two rural routes are operated from Taunton. The first carrier of No. 1 is Henry Conger and of No. 2 was Alfred Hagen.

<sup>15</sup>Two additions to Taunton have been platted by the railroad company: First Railway, on October 4, 1897, and blocks 6 to 13, inclusive, on December 20, 1905.

<sup>16</sup>"Who says Taunton has not grown the last year? Six new buildings have been erected, not including

<sup>17</sup>The signers of the incorporation petition were John Kosmalski, F. A. Steenke, P. P. Ahern, Johann Kubiszak, A. P. Gumpolen, Johann Kopicki, Walentz Korpala, William Nicolay, John Kuskiewicz, Max Kosmalski, B. Bimek, George Cherpeski, Johan Krivins, Thomas Walsh, E. T. Morse, Anton Jasinski, W. F. Carstens, H. G. Conger, Kasimierz Bulmaski, Louies Coren, J. H. Pennington, James J. Moughan, M. F. Ahern, W. C. Ahern, W. J. Moughan, Anton Litanski, Fred Backer, C. J. Traen, M. F. Spronffski, John Gorborg, John Domek, Henry Traer, W. E. Skeels, J. A. Patrowski, M. J. Salmon, E. W. Carstens, W. S. Baldwin, W. B. Moughan, E. A. Lee, Ole Kaas, A. Beeks, H. P. Jalmson, Anton Larson, John Kozinski, Ludwits Breponynski, J. J. Ahern, John A. Peterson, John Nawak and F. B. Hartwick.

spectors of the first election, which was held at the office of Youmans Brothers & Hodgins on June 5. At the election "for incorporation" was carried, the first village officers were selected soon after, and Taunton began local government.

Following is the roster of officers chosen at the several village elections:<sup>18</sup>

1900—President, P. P. Ahern; trustees, E. H. Carstens, H. P. Johnson, W. C. Ahern; recorder, J. J. Moughan; justice, W. S. Baldwin.

1901—President, P. P. Ahern; trustees, H. P. Johnson, W. C. Ahern, T. F. Walsh; recorder, J. H. Pennington; treasurer, J. J. Domek; justice, Ole Johnson; constable, John Ross.

1902—President, P. P. Ahern; trustees, H. P. Johnson, W. C. Ahern, T. F. Walsh; recorder, W. E. Skeels; treasurer, J. J. Domek; assessor, William Nicolay; justices, M. F. Ahern, William Nicolay; constables, Paul Carstens, W. S. Baldwin.

1903—President, P. P. Ahern; trustees, H. P. Johnson, E. H. Carstens, W. S. Baldwin; recorder, A. B. Conger; treasurer, A. Heymans; assessor, William Nicolay.

1904—President, P. P. Ahern; trustees, H. P. Johnson, W. S. Baldwin, W. Korpai; recorder, F. B. Hartwick; treasurer, A. Heymans; assessor, William Nicolay; constables, H. Frazer, J. E. Salmon.

1905—President, P. P. Ahern; trustees, H. P. Johnson, W. Korpai, W. S. Baldwin; recorder, F. B. Hartwick; treasurer, A. Heymans; assessor, W. Hagaman; justice, D. F. Salmon; constable, J. E. Salmon.

1906—President, P. P. Ahern; trustees, H. P. Johnson, W. Korpai, W. S. Baldwin; recorder, F. B. Hartwick; treasurer, A. Heymans; assessor, J. K. Johnson; justice, John Smishek; constable, John Ross.

1907—President, P. P. Ahern; trustees, H. P. Johnson, J. E. Salmon, Joseph Shimek; recorder, F. B. Hartwick; treasurer, A. Heymans; assessor, T. G. Ahern.

1908—President, P. P. Ahern; trustees, H. P. Johnson, J. E. Salmon, Joseph Shimek; recorder, F. B. Hartwick; treasurer, Charles Maek; assessor, William Nicolay; constable, John Ross.

1909—President, P. P. Ahern; trustees, J. E. Salmon, D. F. Salmon, Joseph Shimek; recorder, F. B. Hartwick; treasurer, M. F. Ahern; assessor, William Nicolay; justice, S. M. Walrath; constable, J. J. Mach.

1910—President, P. P. Ahern; trustees, J. F. Koffnolski, J. E. Salmon, D. F. Salmon; recorder, F. B. Hartwick; treasurer, M. F. Ahern; assessor, William Nicolay; justice, H. M. Maertens; constable, J. Moe.

1911—President, P. P. Ahern; trustees, John Kosmalski, J. E. Salmon, D. F. Salmon; recorder,

F. B. Hartwick; treasurer, M. F. Ahern; justice, D. F. Salmon; constable, H. M. Maertens.

1912—President, P. P. Ahern; trustees, John Kosmalski, D. J. Salmon, D. F. Salmon; recorder, F. B. Hartwick; treasurer, M. F. Ahern; justice, D. F. Salmon; constable, John Ross.

Since becoming an incorporated municipality Taunton has had a slow but steady growth. The population was 196 in 1905 and 205 in 1910. Among the improvements of recent years were a saloon building erected in 1903 by Johnson & Mootz, an implement warehouse by Emil Buttke, a brick store building by J. W. Mach, and a school house in 1906.

#### THE SCHOOL.

Taunton has a good semi-graded public school. O. H. Mullar is the principal and teaches the higher grades; Annie Ahern has charge of the lower grades. The present enrollment is about ninety. The school board is composed of M. F. Ahern, clerk; P. P. Ahern, treasurer; and D. F. Salmon, director. The four-room school house, built of cement blocks, was erected in 1906 at a cost of over \$7000.

#### THE CHURCHES.

St. Cyril and Methoduis Polish Catholic Church of Taunton is one of the strong religious bodies of Lyon county and has a membership of about fifty families. The church edifice was erected in 1895 and was dedicated June 13 of that year. The dedicatory services were conducted by Fathers Jager, of Marshall, and Zaleawiski, of Wilno, and were attended by over 1000 people. For many years the church was ministered to by priests from Ivanhoe and Wilno. The resident priests have been Fathers Buuchek, who served in 1905 and 1906, and Tomeski, who located in Taunton

<sup>18</sup>The license question has never been submitted in Taunton under the local option law and saloons have always been licensed by the Village Council.

in 1911. The parsonage was erected in 1906 at a cost of \$6000.

A German Lutheran society is maintained in Taunton, supplied by pastors from other churches.

#### THE FIRE DEPARTMENT.

The Taunton Fire Department was organized in 1907. Its fire fighting apparatus consists of a chemical engine and its membership is fifteen. John Ross is the chief.

#### THE BANK.

The State Bank of Taunton began

business in May, 1905, with a capital stock of \$10,000. The officers and directors at the time of organization and at the present time are as follows: John Swenson, president; P. P. Ahern, vice president; M. F. Ahern, cashier; and Samuel Lewison. The institution does a general banking business and engages in the real estate, collection and insurance business. The bank has had a substantial growth, the deposits having increased from \$15,000 in 1905 to \$90,000 in 1911, and enjoys the confidence of the people.

## CHAPTER XVI.

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### LYND, FLORENCE, GARVIN, AMIRET, GREEN VALLEY, ETC.

WITHIN the limits of Lyon county are a number of little villages that have not reached a size that would warrant the beginning of local government, but which are, nevertheless, places of importance in the affairs of the county and of great benefit to the people of the surrounding country. They are Lynd, Florence, Garvin, Amiret and Green Valley.

Besides these villages are a few other places that have names and occupy places on the map. They are Dudley, Burchard, Heckman and Camden. Before Lyon county became dotted with villages and before the days of rural mail routes a number of country post-offices were established, the names of many of which will be recalled only by pioneer residents. Among such post-offices were Rock Lake, Sham Lake, Blan Avon, Ceresco, Hildrethsburg, Island Lake, Brenner and Leo.

#### LYND.

One of the most important of the smaller towns of Lyon county in a business sense, and by far the most important historically, is Lynd, located on the Great Northern railroad and the Redwood river, six and one-half miles southwest of Marshall. Nestled among the river bluffs, it has the most beautiful

location of any village in the county. It boasts quite a number of business enterprises and is a thriving little hamlet.

Time was when Lynd was the only village in and the county seat of Lyon county, as well as the business, social and religious center of the county. In chronicling its history it is necessary to deal with three distinct villages, all bearing the same name. The oldest of these has been commonly referred to as Upper Lynd and was on the southeast quarter of section 33, Lynd township, one mile southwest of the present village. Lower Lynd, which became plain Lynd after the abandonment of the upper village, was founded a little after the older village and was located on the north side of the Redwood river—on the south half of the northwest quarter of section 27, Lynd township,—one-half mile north of the present village. Modern Lynd replaced the other village, having been founded in the late eighties, after the building of the Great Northern railroad.

Upper Lynd came into existence in 1868. That year the postoffice, named Lynd in honor of James W. Lynd, the trader who had his post at the site, was established with D. M. Taylor as postmaster. The same year Luman Ticknor opened a hotel and Mr. Taylor

put in a small stock of staple goods. The store was not conducted long, but Mr. Taylor served as postmaster for several years. In September, 1870, Dr. George W. Whitney established a store in the log building on section 33 that had been used by the trader many years before. Dr. Whitney occupied that building for a short time and then erected a building in Lower Lynd and continued the business.

When Lyon county was organized on August 12, 1870, the county seat was declared to be on the southeast quarter of section 33, which was Upper Lynd. The following year that village reached the zenith of its power. A church was erected, W. T. Ellis established a store, and the townsite was platted by George C. Smith and W. T. Ellis.

The Upper Lynd townsite was surveyed by T. G. Morrill on August 22, 1871. The certificate of dedication was acknowledged by the proprietors<sup>1</sup> before D. D. Morrill, a notary public for Ramsey county, on February 28, 1872, and it was filed in the office of the register of deeds of Redwood county March 20, 1872. Twenty-four blocks were included in the plat. In the center of the map of the plat was one block labeled "Public Square or Park." The north and south streets were named Alexander, Ramsey, Morton and Fenton; the east and west ones, William, Marshall, Main and Charles.

W. T. Ellis, the guiding spirit of Upper Lynd, labored hard to make the village a success, but his efforts resulted in failure. Without legal authority, but by common consent, the rival down the river became the county seat, the post-office was moved there, Mr. Ellis moved his store there, and in time the site of

Upper Lynd became good farming land, as it is to day.

Lower Lynd was founded in 1871, by A. R. Cummins and A. D. Morgan. It was beautifully situated on the river bottom, with bluffs rising abruptly on either side, and was nearly surrounded by timber. The townsite consisted of about twenty acres of land, divided into eight blocks, and occupied a position within a little bend of the river, on the north side. Separating the blocks were three streets, named Cummins, Main and Bridge.

Levi S. Kiel and A. D. Morgan erected a large hotel building on the site and Mr. Morgan established a store. The new Lynd secured the county seat in 1872, the postoffice was moved there, a church building was moved from the older town, and Lower Lynd became the metropolis of Lyon county.

Its importance was not destined to continue, however. The Winona & St. Peter railroad was built through the county in 1872 and left Lynd to one side. Marshall was founded and rapidly outstripped its inland rival. In the fall of 1873 the voters of the county declared their preference for Marshall for the county seat, and in January, 1874, Lynd lost that aid to future greatness. At the time of the removal of the county seat the *Prairie Schooner* said that Lynd contained two stores of general merchandise, a postoffice, shoe shop, hotel, blacksmith shop, wagon shop, carpenter shop and several offices.

Lynd steadily declined after it lost the county seat. At the beginning of the year 1876 the county paper stated that Lynd had one store and was the center of a large settlement. In time practically all the business enterprises

<sup>1</sup>The dedication was in the following language: "We, the undersigned, George C. Smith and William T. Ellis, proprietors of the village of Lynd, do hereby certify that we caused the same to be laid out into

lots, streets and alleys for town purposes as here platted and that we hereby give the streets and alleys as here platted to the public. [Signed] George C. Smith, William T. Ellis."

# FLORENCE SCENES





were abandoned, although the postoffice continued to be conducted by Levi S. Kiel until after the building of modern Lynd. The pioneer hotel building and several residences still occupy the site of old Lynd.

With the building of the Willmar & Sioux Falls railroad in 1888 came the founding of the third, or modern, Lynd. When the grade for the road was made in the fall of 1887, a grade for a siding was made on the southwest quarter of section 27, a half mile south of the old town, and in August, 1888, the track was put in.

W. H. Sherman, vice president of the Willmar & Sioux Falls Railroad Company, and C. E. Rice platted the town-site. It was surveyed by C. L. Van Fleet on November 6, 1888, and the dedication was made by the proprietors on November 20. Four blocks only were platted. They were divided by streets named First, Second, Third and Fourth and at right angles by Rice and Railroad Streets.<sup>2</sup>

Modern Lynd was not built in a day; in fact, its growth was very slow. The first building erected on the site was an elevator put up by the Northwestern Elevator Company. The people of the vicinity wanted a store established,<sup>3</sup> but for several years no one made the venture. The first store was opened in 1891 by F. W. Cowham, who conducted it until the fall of 1895 and then sold to W. R. Gregg. The Lynd postoffice, which had been conducted so long by

Levi S. Kiel, was moved to the store and Mr. Cowham became postmaster.<sup>4</sup> After the Cowham store, the next building erected in Lynd was a residence by A. E. Alexander, who moved from a farm. The Methodist church was put up in 1896 and a residence by Philip Snyder in 1897.

The first thirteen years of Lynd's history saw very few improvements made, and this was due largely to the fact that good titles to lots could not be secured. In 1901 the matter was cleared<sup>5</sup> and the advancement that year was rapid. Nicholson Brothers put up buildings and engaged in the lumber and hardware business. Larson & Voog built a store and residence and engaged in business. Charles Zellmer erected the store building now occupied by H. C. Hauser. Mrs. Williams and Mrs. Austin put up a building and established the first hotel.

During the past decade Lynd has made fair progress and taken its place as one of the substantial little villages of Lyon county. Among the buildings erected since 1901 are the residences of A. A. Sharratt, F. Nicholson, Mrs. Gillman, Mrs. Williams, C. W. Cady, George Moffatt, G. S. Wunderlich, Stephen Nicholson, Otto Raav and F. W. Vanstrom, the tenement house of Claus Frahm, the school house erected in 1905, the First State Bank building in 1910, the blacksmith shop of Claus Frahm, and the wagon shop of F. E. Bills.

<sup>2</sup>Two additions to Lynd have been platted, namely: Rice's, by C. E. Rice on March 14, 1905; Sharratt's First, by A. A. Sharratt on April 15, 1911.

<sup>3</sup>"There has been talk of putting in a store at Lynd, but it does not materialize very rapidly. This is a good point and some one will be here soon to make his fortune."—Lynd Correspondent to News-Messenger, November 17, 1890.

<sup>4</sup>Mr. Cowham served as postmaster until November, 1895, and W. R. Gregg has since held the office.

One rural route is operated from the Lynd office. It was the first rural free delivery route established in Southwestern Minnesota and the first trip on it was made December 4, 1899. Philip Snyder was the first carrier and C. W. Cady was substitute. The latter

has been carrier since November 1, 1901, and is the second oldest carrier, in point of service, in the state.

<sup>5</sup>"The town of Lynd has for many years been sadly stunted because of the lack of title to the land. Until a few days ago no one knew to whom the land belonged and it rested with the courts to decide the matter. T. P. Baldwin bid the lands in at forced sale and contested for possession, but the decision handed down was not in his favor. The court says that the land belongs to Rice & Canfield.

"The boom has already begun. Three lots have been sold to a Mr. Larson, of Wisconsin, who will open a lumber yard and an elevator in a short time. It is understood that a store will also soon be opened."—Marshall Reporter, April 5, 1901.

The First Methodist Episcopal Church of Lynd is the outgrowth of the first religious society formed in Lyon county, which was established in September, 1867, by the first settlers.<sup>6</sup> Rev. C. F. Wright was the first pastor.<sup>7</sup> After the founding of Marshall in 1872 the charge was divided and two separate organizations were maintained.

In September, 1889, the Lynd church was incorporated with the following as trustees: L. S. Kiel, W. H. Langdon, L. Gilman, W. R. Gregg, M. C. Kiel, William Cook, A. C. Tucker, E. E. Taylor and W. L. Watson. It was the intention to erect a church edifice at that time, but it was several years later when the building was finally erected.

The matter of a church home was again taken up at a meeting of the trustees on January 28, 1896, when a building committee was selected. The church officers at that time were L. S. Kiel, president; Jacob Rouse, secretary; and W. R. Gregg, treasurer. The building was commenced the following May, the corner stone was laid June 13, and the church was occupied for the first time in August, 1896. The cost was \$1200. A parsonage was completed in March, 1911, at a cost of \$1200.<sup>8</sup>

Early in 1889 a Presbyterian church society was organized in Lynd and services were for a time held in the school house, conducted by Rev. N. D. Graves, of Marshall. The trustees at the time of organization were Hiram Fellows, D. C. Pierce and Andrew Nelson. Alexander Burr was clerk and treasurer.

<sup>6</sup>For a more complete history of this church the reader is referred to page 147.

<sup>7</sup>Other pastors of the Lynd church have been Revs. A. H. Riley, Eastman, G. H. McKee, O. C. Gregg, W. T. Ellis, George Galpin, S. F. Lemans, Joseph Hall, Ellery, Lindsley, Hitchcock, A. A. Wilcox, J. W. Farr, J. W. Stebbins, Langworthy, Williams and George W. Root.

<sup>8</sup>The stewards of the Methodist church of Lynd are

The Lynd State Bank was incorporated June 1, 1910, and opened for business July 11 of the same year, with a capital stock of \$10,000. The original stockholders and officers were the same as at present, namely: J. E. Vanstrom, president; S. J. Forbes, vice president; and F. W. Vanstrom, cashier. The bank owns its own home, which was erected at the time of founding. The growth of the institution has been satisfactory. Within six months after founding the deposits were \$30,000 and there has since been a steady increase.

#### FLORENCE.

Florence is an unincorporated village on the Great Northern railroad and on the northwest quarter of section 20, Shelburne township. There are a bank, several stores and shops in the village, where the people of Shelburne and adjoining townships do their trading.

Like the other villages of Lyon county on the Great Northern railroad, Florence was founded in 1888. The site for the station was selected in November of the year before,<sup>9</sup> and in May, 1888, it was announced that the new station would be named Florence. The name was bestowed in honor of Florence Sherman, daughter of the founder of the town. Train service was begun in the fall and on October 9, 1888, the village was platted by W. H. Sherman, who had purchased eighty acres of land from H. P. Sanden for the purpose. It was surveyed by Jackson & Vause and consisted of seven blocks. The streets, running north and south, were named

C. W. Cady, recording steward; A. E. Alexander, S. Nicholson, Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Austin, W. R. Gregg, H. W. Ruliffson, N. F. Larson and William Banks. The trustees are W. R. Gregg, S. Nicholson, A. E. Alexander, C. H. Austin and Fred Nicholson.

<sup>9</sup>"The last station, making six in all, will be located on section 20, in Shelburne, six and one-half miles beyond Clear Lake [Russell], ten miles west of Balaton and nineteen miles southwest of Marshall."—Marshall News-Messenger, November 11, 1887.

Morton and Harrison, and the avenues were named Garfield, Lincoln, Logan and Blaine.<sup>10</sup>

The townsite proprietor erected a store building—the first structure in the town—and leased it to Thomas H. Owens, who sold a farm near Tyler and established a general store in the new town. For several years he was the only business man in Florence and he conducted the store until his death on March 15, 1894. The postoffice was established soon after Mr. Owens located in Florence and he became the first postmaster.<sup>11</sup> The second building erected was a blacksmith shop put up by a Mr. Swenson.

For several years after the founding there were few improvements to mark the site, but in 1893 the village advanced rapidly. Amberson Brothers established the second general store (now conducted by M. O. Gorseth), H. O. Jeglum engaged in the implement business, a Norwegian Lutheran church was put up, the Shelburne Warehouse Association engaged in the grain business, L. Anderson put up a building which was occupied by a harness shop and shoe store for a time and later by a general store in charge of T. Dreger, C. O. Green built a hotel which was opened early in August, a school house was completed late in the year, and several others engaged in business.

Florence has not grown as has some of the neighboring villages, but it has developed into a prosperous little community and each year marks some progress. There was talk of incor-

porating as a village in 1902, but the step was not taken.

The history of the Florence school antedates that of the village itself. In 1884 school district No. 47, embracing the southwest quarter of Shelburne township, was organized, and a school house was built on C. P. Myran's farm, the southwest quarter of section 20, just south of the future village. The teachers of that school were Cora Lowland, Mary Bingham, Amelia Lien, T. H. Owens, Blanch Chapman, Mattie Sanders, Mabel C. Grover and Ella Pierce.

The present district, No. 78, was organized in 1893.\* In the fall of that year a school house was erected in the village at a cost of \$750. Forty-five pupils are now enrolled in the school, which is in charge of Edla C. Johnson.<sup>12</sup> The members of the school board are A. E. Green, clerk; H. P. Sanden, treasurer; and Anton Hynden, director.

The Norwegian Lutheran church of Florence was established in 1878, ten years before the village was founded.<sup>13</sup> The first pastor was Rev. Martin Shirle, who was in charge of the church one year. He was succeeded in turn by Rev. Eggeland, 1879-82; Rev. Martin Shirle (second call), 1882-90; Rev. Bernt Askevold, 1890-94; Rev. Sorenson, 1894-97; Rev. Helga Aanestad, 1897-07; and Rex. Axel Berg, 1907-12.

Camp No. 3871, Modern Woodmen of America, was organized in November, 1897,<sup>14</sup> and has had an active life. Twenty-three members are now on the rolls.

<sup>10</sup>Sanden's First Addition was platted November 24, 1909, by H. P. Sanden.

<sup>11</sup>Other postmasters of Florence have been David Owens, John Martin, M. O. Gorseth and Anton Larson.

<sup>12</sup>A complete roster of the teachers in district No. 78 is as follows: Dora Anderson, 1893; Mattie C. Snartum, 1894-95; Caroline Thompson, 1896; Mary Davis, 1897; Herbert Dresser, 1898; Sophia Semonsen, 1899; Albert Peterson, 1900-01; Josephine Sundblad, 1902-03; Agnes Johnson, 1904-05; Ragna Johnson, 1906; Elisa Hall, 1907; Martha Bly, 1908-09; Lydia Lundquist, 1910; Edla C. Johnson, 1911-12.

<sup>13</sup>Early members of the church were Peter Sanden, Hans P. Sanden, Cornelius Myran, Paul Ronning, E. K. Ronning, J. P. Myran, Andrew Sanden, Christopher Johnson, Edward Anderson, Evan Berg, Evan Blegen, Iver Blegen, Carl Anderson, Andrew Berg and Thomas Ronning.

<sup>14</sup>The charter members of the Modern Woodmen lodge were John Martin, Hans P. Sanden, K. E. Ronning, Edward Ronning, Louis Anderson, Evan Berg, Peter Myran, Ole Myran, Louis Blegen, Theodore Drake, Soren Jacobson, Mike Ofstad, M. O. Gorseth and Peter Ronning.

The State Bank of Florence was incorporated June 5, 1908, with a capital stock of \$10,000. The first board of directors was composed of P. A. Christianson, A. E. Green, M. O. Gorseth, C. H. Christopherson, Ed. Anderson, H. P. Sanden and S. A. Christianson.

#### GARVIN.

Of the smaller villages of Lyon county, Garvin is one of the most important and has a number of business enterprises that would be a credit to more pretentious places. It is a station on the Dakota Central division of the Chicago & Northwestern railroad, about midway between Tracy and Balaton, and is on the southeast quarter of section 27, Custer township.

Although the railroad was built in 1879 the station was not established that early and the site was not entitled to a place on the map until 1886. Four years earlier a side track had been laid there and in railroad circles the site was known as Siding No. 7.<sup>15</sup> The siding became known as Terry in the spring of 1886, and on April 30 the Terry townsite was platted by the railroad company. It was surveyed by C. C. Pudor and was dedicated by Albert Keep, as president of the Winona & St. Peter Railroad Company. Two blocks only were included in the original plat. The streets were named First, Sherman, Grant and Sheridan.<sup>16</sup>

In the fall of 1886 the postoffice was established and for some time the office

was at the home of William R. Owens, the postmaster.<sup>17</sup> The station bore the name Terry only about one year and was then renamed Kent. The first building erected at the station was a flathouse put up by a Mr. Seefield in 1887. H. L. Green was employed as grain buyer by Mr. Seefield. He lived in one end of the flathouse and stored grain in the other. About 1889 the flathouse was replaced by an elevator and Mr. Green continued as grain buyer several years.

The name of the station was changed from Kent to Garvin, in honor of H. C. Garvin, traveling freight agent of the railroad, in July, 1891. Until business houses were founded there, however, the place was generally referred to as Seefield, after the owner of the elevator. The second structure on the site was a business building put up by William Owens, in which he opened a store. He conducted the store a few years and then sold to Annie Shand. About the time that William Owens erected his store building he and his brother, Owen Owens, each built dwelling houses in the village.

After selling the pioneer store, William Owens and his brother put up another building and established the second general store. About the same time Andrew Anderson erected a small building and engaged in the blacksmith business. Other enterprises followed and the village of Garvin gradually developed. It has had a steady growth

<sup>15</sup>When this sidetrack was laid in 1882 it had apparently been the intention of the railroad company to establish a station, for in the Marshall News of August 11, 1882, I find the following:

"Lyon county has a new village, located in the town of Custer, on the Dakota Central, midway between Tracy and Balaton. The company has platted a townsite and put in a sidetrack. A depot and an elevator will be built immediately."

<sup>16</sup>Additions to Garvin have been platted as follows: Blocks 3 and 4, August 8, 1900, by the railroad company; surveyed by J. C. W. Cline.

Bredvien's, December 9, 1905, by Hans J. Bredvien; surveyed by W. A. Hawkins.

Blocks 5 to 14, inclusive, June 17, 1909, by the railroad company; surveyed by F. R. Cline.

Blocks 15 to 19, inclusive, November 26, 1910, by the railroad company; surveyed by F. R. Cline.

<sup>17</sup>The office has had only two postmasters. William R. Owens served from the fall of 1886 until September, 1900, since which time Evan M. Jones has been postmaster.

Two rural routes are supplied from the Garvin office. Both were established March 1, 1903. Samuel Jones was carrier of No. 1 and David V. Jones of No. 2.



## GARVIN SCENES





and each year witnesses additions to the town.

Garvin has an excellent school, with three instructors and about eighty-five pupils. Before the village of Garvin was founded, on December 3, 1879, district No. 47 was organized.<sup>18</sup> The first teacher of the school was Annie G. Shand and the first officers of the district were E. H. Cutts, clerk; Thomas L. Harris, treasurer; and Daniel Willford, director.<sup>19</sup> A two-room school house was built in 1901 and that was replaced in 1911 by a four-room brick school house, erected at a cost of \$11,500. The present instructors are Eunice Davis, principal; Agnes Peterson and Clara Jacobson.<sup>20</sup>

The First Congregational Church of Garvin was organized in 1891 with only eight members, as follows: John N. Jones, William W. Jones, Annie P. Jones, Mary Anne Jones, Edith Owens, Thomas T. Jones, Evan M. Jones and Maggie Jones. The first deacons were William W. Jones and Evan M. Jones and the pastor was Rev. Edward Thomas.<sup>21</sup> The church was erected in 1899 and the value of the church property is now

<sup>18</sup>The signers of the petition for the organization of the district were Daniel Willford, E. H. Cutts, A. S. Cutler, L. Soward, Thomas L. Harris, Robert Owens, Hugh R. Hughes, Robert R. Owens, Margaret Jones, Oien Johnson, John H. Hughes, John S. Owens, H. C. Masters, John L. Harris, C. M. Goodrich, W. W. Harrison, John Avery, Walter DeLong, Simon DeLong, James Steele, John H. Griffiths, Solomon Evans, George S. Robinson, Edward Glynn, B. R. Bass, Jeremiah Evans, David Davis, H. Peterson, Clemet Helleson, Thomas Nelson and Hans Jacobson.

<sup>19</sup>Other officers of the district have been A. G. Bumford, Clinton Willford, O. R. Owens, Hans Johnson, Ed. Edwards, W. W. Jones, C. R. Holden, N. S. Peterson, A. L. Colburn and E. M. Jones.

<sup>20</sup>Others who taught the Garvin school since 1897 have been N. S. Peterson, Arthur O. Dillon, Glenola Collins, Elizabeth Carlyle, Hannah Johnson, Etta A. Lucas, Myrtle Ladd, S. S. Swanson, H. R. Painter, Mrs. H. R. Painter, Rose Osborn, Ida Amundson, Clara Welty, C. H. Webb, Edith M. Engstrom, Leona Blanchard and Della Cook.

<sup>21</sup>The pastors who have occupied the pulpit of the Congregational church have been as follows: Edward Thomas, 1891-95; John L. Martin, 1895-96; R. P. Upton, 1896-98; A. E. Wood, 1898-00; C. A. Ruddock, 1900-02; W. A. Taylor, 1902; supplied during 1902-03; George Battey, 1903-04; F. Wright, 1905-06; D. R. C. Jenkins, 1907-09; Robert E. Roberts, 1909-11; William L. McClane, 1911-12.

<sup>22</sup>In the same charge with the Garvin church is Bethel Congregational Church of Custer township. It was organized January 20, 1875, through the efforts

\$4000. The membership is seventy-eight, comprising twenty families. A Sunday School with seventy-five members is maintained in connection.<sup>22</sup>

Garvin Camp No. 3599, Modern Woodmen of America, was organized April 5, 1898.<sup>23</sup> The lodge has had an active life and now has sixty-two members. The principal officers are A. A. Persons, E. M. Jones, E. M. Strunk, C. R. Holden and John Holden, Jr.

The Woodmen auxiliary, Charity Lodge No. 2048, Royal Neighbors of America, was organized March 20, 1900.<sup>24</sup> There are now forty-three members in good standing.

The banking history of Garvin dates back to May 27, 1905, when the Lyon County Bank, private, was established by G. A. Tate, J. H. Rice and N. H. Olson. Mr. Tate was president and F. D. Pinckney cashier. In April, 1907, the farmers of the vicinity purchased the stock and organized the Farmers State Bank, with a capital stock of \$10,000. The new officers were N. S. Peterson, president; T. P. Lien, vice president; and F. D. Pinckney, cashier.

The Farmers State Bank absorbed

of Rev. E. H. Alden. The first members of the church were Richard Hughes, Ann Hughes, Thomas Harris, Hannah Harris, Mary Williams, Katherine Thomas, Mary Jane Griffith, Edward Glynn, Ann Glynn, Marguerite Hughes and Ruth Price. Thomas Harris and Richard Hughes were the first deacons and Edward Glynn, James Morgan and William H. Hughes the first trustees.

The church building on the southwest quarter of section 12 was built in 1876 and until 1895 the charge was an independent one. The pastors during those years were Revs. Philip Pergine, Francis, Wrigley, James Davis, Edward Thomas, John K. Martin and Rufus P. Upton. Since 1895 the pastors of the Garvin and Bethel churches have been the same. Bethel church has forty-one members at the present time.

<sup>23</sup>The charter members of Garvin Camp were A. J. Anderson, C. S. Anderson, A. G. Bumford, B. O. Dalthorp, Edward P. Evans, H. L. Green, Reuben L. Harris, Carl R. Holden, R. T. Hughes, Evan M. Jones, John P. Jones, Thomas T. Jones, William W. Jones, George E. Lindsley, John S. Owens, Owen R. Owens, H. L. Shand, James A. W. Shand, A. J. Swenson, Clinton Willford and C. M. Willford.

<sup>24</sup>Charter members of Charity Lodge were Maggie J. Jones, Anna Coyle, Mary A. Jones, Margaret Hughes, Hannah A. Hughes, Olive A. Thomas, Louisa Carlburn, Nellie Caruren, Annie P. Jones, Annie D. Jones, Mary A. Weed, Annie Shand, Sarah Harris, Sephorah Owens, Mary Underwood, Anna E. Owens, Alice Hughes, Mary J. Hughes, Eleanor Jones, Mary F. Jones, Alice Jones, Edith Owens and Lena Anderson.

the Garvin State Bank on July 3, 1909. The latter was organized in 1907 with the following officers: J. R. Fitch, president; C. S. Orwoll, vice president; and H. L. Shand, cashier. The present officers of the Farmers State Bank are N. S. Peterson, president; G. Peterson, vice president; and F. D. Pinckney, cashier. Under the management of Mr. Pinckney the bank has had a prosperous life.

One of the institutions of Garvin is the creamery, which was built by the farmers of the vicinity and put in operation in June, 1899. The Garvin Creamery Company manufactures 200,000 pounds of butter per year and distributes about \$60,000 per year among the farmers of the vicinity. P. O. Anderson is the buttermaker and has had charge of the creamery for the past eight years. The officers of the company are as follows: Thomas D. Phillips, president; W. W. Jones, secretary; E. M. Jones, treasurer; Ellsworth Evans, J. J. Thomas, E. J. Davis and D. D. Jones, directors.

#### AMIRET.

A compact, neat appearing little village is Amiret, twelve miles south-east of Marshall on the Northwestern railroad. It is on the northeast quarter of section 19, Amiret township. Here are grouped a number of stores, shops and elevators, enterprises that go to make up a trading point for the convenience of the surrounding farming population.

Amiret has borne different names at

different periods of its history and it is one of the oldest villages of Lyon county. Nearby the first townsite in the county was laid out in 1857 and named Saratoga, and later when the railroad was built and a station was established in the vicinity it also was named Saratoga—the first name borne by Amiret.

The plans of the railroad company regarding the location of a station in the vicinity of the future village of Amiret were rather indefinite. A side-track for the unloading of supplies was laid in 1872, when the railroad was being constructed, on the S. S. Truax farm, the northwest quarter of section 32, about a mile and a half from the present village. There seems to have been the promise that a station would be located farther north, for in the late summer of 1872 William Coburn erected a store building there and engaged in business. Within a very short time he moved the building to Saratoga Station (section 32). In July, 1872, a postoffice, named Coburg in honor of the pioneer store-keeper, was established with Mr. Coburn as postmaster.<sup>25</sup>

The present and final location of Saratoga Station was selected in the fall of 1874. The townsite, also named Saratoga and situated on the northeast quarter of section 19, was surveyed for the railroad company on October 7, 1874, by John B. Berry, and the certificate of dedication was made April 26, 1875. Eight blocks were laid out, divided by Front, Church, Main, Second and First Streets.<sup>26</sup>

J. H. Williams established the second

<sup>25</sup>The Coburg postoffice was discontinued late in 1875, Mr. Coburn having served until that time. It was re-established in the spring of 1878 with James Mitchell, Jr., as postmaster, but the office during his administration was in charge of David Bell. Soon after its re-establishment the name was changed to Amiret. Mr. Bell later received the appointment. He was succeeded in July, 1879, by C. A. Wheelock, who served until October, 1880. D. S. Hart, the depot agent, kept the office a month or two and late in

November, 1880, the office was put in charge of Frank Watson. J. W. Kelley was the next postmaster and held the office until July, 1885. T. H. Webb was postmaster from 1887 to April, 1897, and F. W. Webb from that time until 1911. David Morgan is the present postmaster.

<sup>26</sup>Outlots 1, 2 and 3 were platted by the railroad company September 1, 1911.

store, his residence answering the purpose of a business house, and competed with the pioneer business man. Mr. Coburn conducted the store and postoffice at the old station on section 32 until June, 1875; then the neighbors assisted in moving the store building to the Saratoga townsite, where it remained until destroyed by fire in December, 1907.<sup>27</sup> A depot was erected and Saratoga, or Coburg, as the place was more commonly called, began to take on the appearance of a village.

The grasshopper plague brought a stop to advancement; in fact, was responsible for the depopulation of Coburg. Mr. Coburn closed his store and moved away, the postoffice was discontinued, and a few empty buildings only marked the site. Coburg was without inhabitants at the beginning of the year 1876.<sup>28</sup>

With the departure of the grasshoppers the deserted village once more became the scene of activities. In the spring of 1878 the Coburg postoffice was re-established and David Bell, who at the same time opened a general store in the Coburn building, had charge of the office. During the summer of the same year Van Dusen & Company erected an elevator and a dwelling house. The residence was occupied by L. N. Lawshe, who had charge of the grain business.

<sup>27</sup>The *Prairie Schooner* of July 2, 1875, said: "The town of Coburg has been changed to a point a mile this side of the old station. Coburn Brothers and others have moved up there and a town has been laid out with good prospects of future growth."

It is said that this old building of Mr. Coburn was the first frame building, excepting the engineers' building at Marshall, erected on the line of the road west from Sleepy Eye. It was used for store purposes respectively by William Coburn, David Bell, H. D. Kelly, D. Y. Davis, A. C. Chittenden, J. W. Kelley, John Currie, Thomas Webb, Purvis & Griffith and Mr. Hamilton. While the last named was the owner it was destroyed by fire.

<sup>28</sup>"Coburg is twelve miles east of Marshall. It has a depot, no business, but lots of good land."—*Marshall News*, January 1, 1876.

<sup>29</sup>The history of the naming of Amiret was given as follows in the *Marshall News-Messenger* of August 9, 1907, the information having been secured in an interview with James Mitchell:

"... In the dilemma of the handful of citizens,

A shoe shop was established, a Congregational church and Sunday School were organized, and a school was conducted by L. F. Robinson.

Prior to February, 1879, the postoffice bore the name Coburg and the station Saratoga. Confusion in the mail service resulted because of the dual appellation and the name of the postoffice was at that time changed to Amiret, and soon after the railroad company changed the name of the station to correspond. Amiret was named in honor of the wife of M. L. Sykes, at that time vice president of the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad Company.<sup>29</sup>

Several improvements were made in Amiret in 1879. David Bell sold his store in May to H. D. Kelly, who conducted the business only a short time. C. A. Wheelock became depot agent and opened a second general store in July, which he conducted until October, 1880. William Blair and E. Warn each established hotels, G. L. Lowe opened a blacksmith shop, a school house was erected, and L. N. Lawshe continued to buy grain.

In 1880 C. T. Trow engaged in the lumber business, a Mr. Smith for a few months operated a general store, D. S. Hart became station agent and sold a few goods as a side line, and in the fall A. C. Chittenden, of Marshall, opened a

young Jim Mitchell came to the front and insisted that the place should have a new name that should include both the station and the postoffice. He came to Marshall and laid his troubles before Gene Wilcox, who was then station agent and supposed to stand in with the railroad magnates. Gene asked for twenty-four hours' delay and meanwhile worked the wires between Marshall and railroad headquarters at Winona, eulogizing the beauties and prospects of Amiret and descanting on the renown that would befall the fortunate individual who should name the embryo municipality.

"After due discussion among the magnates, it was determined that one M. L. Sykes, a vice president of the Chicago & Northwestern road, and also holding a similar office in the Winona & St. Peter branch, should have the honor, which was fitting, as he had already bought a farm near the station to be named. With true gallantry the railroad man thought of his wife, whose name was Amiretta, and through Wilcox at first hand, and Mitchell at second hand, the village was christened Amiret, a name which it has since held."

branch general store, which was placed in charge of Frank Watson. That store was operated for several years.

The progress of Amiret was not rapid, for we find that in the spring of 1882 there were in the village only one store, an elevator, lumber yard, hotel and boarding house. During the next few years there were more backward steps. A. C. Chittenden withdrew from the field and a store was established by J. W. Kelley, who in the spring of 1885 was reported to be the only inhabitant of Amiret.<sup>30</sup> And in July he moved to Balaton and left the village without an inhabitant.

There was a revival in the spring of 1886. Webb Brothers opened a general store, two other stores were established, and a blacksmith shop was again operated in the village. Never again was Amiret to be called a "one man town." In 1892 the business interests consisted of two stores, two grain warehouses, two machinery dealers, a lumber yard and a blacksmith and wagon shop.

Slow growth has followed and Amiret now consists of a number of prosperous business houses, housed in substantial buildings. Twice have fires brought losses to the village. In December, 1907, the old Coburn store building was destroyed. On November 3, 1908, the store of Webb & Peterson was burned, bringing a loss of many thousands of dollars. The Tracy Fire Department was called and saved the village from destruction.

The Amiret State Bank was estab-

lished with a capital stock of \$10,000 on October 1, 1910, by a number of business men and farmers of Amiret and vicinity and is housed in a building erected for the purpose. The officers and directors are as follows: President, Lester J. Fitch; vice president, R. A. Mitchell; cashier, F. T. Shaeffer; Solomon Greeley and C. S. Rowell.

#### GREEN VALLEY.

Five miles northeast of Marshall, on the line of the Great Northern railroad and on the northeast quarter of section 10, Fairview township, is the little village of Green Valley. There is one general store, an implement warehouse, lumber yard, three elevators, blacksmith shop, a church and school.

Green Valley came into existence when the Willmar & Sioux Falls railroad was built in 1888. The site and name of the station were announced in May of that year, although it was known the fall before that a station would be located in the vicinity.<sup>31</sup> The track was laid to the site on Saturday, August 18, 1888, and the sidetrack was laid the next day and a platform built. The Northwestern Elevator Company erected an elevator at the same time, which was the first building on the site.

There were no other improvements in Green Valley during the year of its founding. In February, 1889, the post-office was established and conducted at the home of G. M. Robinson, who lived nearby. Mr. Robinson served as postmaster until February, 1890.<sup>32</sup> Not

<sup>30</sup>"The executive, judiciary, clerk, postmaster and all is centered in one man, J. W. Kelley. That man runs the village of Amiret entirely and absolutely. Whether he would run the village were there anything of the village besides his store is a question upon which the writer interviewed no one. There is no one to interview besides Mr. Kelley and he couldn't say, for should another man move in he might except to Mr. Kelley's administration and establish a conspiracy. Mr. Kelley knows this and rather than be confronted by any such possibility he throws out no inducements to people to come there, in the way of flaming posters, circulars and Dakota falsehoods."—Marshall News-Messenger, March 27, 1885.

<sup>31</sup>"... The next station coming toward Marshall is somewhat in doubt, but will probably be near G. M. Robinson's, in Fairview, or in the southwest corner of Vallers, making it from five to six miles from Marshall and Cottonwood lake. Of course, it will not be a prominent station, but important as a shipping point and will have a first-class elevator."—Marshall News-Messenger, November 11, 1887.

<sup>32</sup>Others who have been postmasters of Green Valley have been E. P. Duffy, Isaac Clendenning, H. W. Throop, O. S. Walters, Elijah Loomis, J. B. Truax, John Sharratt, John S. Gee and P. F. Ziesmer. Mr. Sharratt is the present postmaster, having served on his last term since October 12, 1905.

# AMIRET SCENES





until the summer and fall of 1889 were there any additions to the village. In August Spurgeon Odell located there and took the management of the elevator, boarding at the home of G. M. Robinson. Before the middle of November he had purchased 21,000 bushels of wheat. The same fall the railroad station was opened, in charge of Frank Angier, but was closed the first of the following year. A little box-car structure was hauled to the site and answered the purposes of a depot.

E. P. Duffy erected a building in the fall of 1889 and in January, 1890, opened the village's first mercantile establishment. About the same time H. W. Throop moved a dwelling house to the village from Vallers township. The Inter-State Grain Company put up a warehouse in August, 1890, and Charles Ahlbeck became the grain buyer for the firm. The same season a blacksmith shop was established by Jay B. Truax. In 1892 Spurgeon Odell erected a dwelling house.

The growth of Green Valley has not been great. Among the enterprises established after the start had been made were a store by J. S. Gee, who also put up a residence; an implement business by Gee & Ziesmer in 1899, lumber yard by the H. W. Ross company, and a blacksmith shop by Mr. Frazier.

Those engaged in business at Green Valley at the present time are as follows: John Sharratt, general store and post-office; L. E. Boudreau, machinery and vehicles; W. H. Lane, manager of the H. W. Ross lumber yard; L. A. Knapp, blacksmith; M. J. Barrett, station agent;

C. W. Christensen, manager Inter-State elevator; Northwestern Elevator Company and Walter Parks Elevator Company.

A Presbyterian church is maintained in Green Valley, although it has never had a resident pastor and has only a few members. It was organized in 1898 through the efforts of John S. Leas, Sunday School organizer, of Cottonwood.<sup>33</sup> A church home was built the same year and was dedicated January 23, 1899, by Rev. R. N. Adams, of Minneapolis. The cost of the church was \$1600 and it was dedicated with an indebtedness of only \$82.

Green Valley Camp No. 4981, Modern Woodmen of America, was organized September 1, 1897.<sup>34</sup> The lodge is still active and has fifty-eight members at the present time.

#### DUDLEY.

Dudley is a townsite and elevator site on the branch of the Northwestern railroad built in 1901. It is on the northwest quarter of section 17, Clifton township, and is the youngest of all Lyon county sites.

When the roadbed was being graded in the summer of 1901 it was rumored that one of the stations would be in Clifton township,<sup>35</sup> and in November the railroad authorities announced that such a station would be established and that its name would be Dudley. A townsite of four blocks was surveyed by F. R. Cline and platted December 20, 1901, by the Western Town Lot Company, of which M. Hughitt was presi-

<sup>33</sup>Among the first members of the church were Mrs. D. P. Andrews, H. N. Robinson, Mrs. W. C. Robinson, Mr. and Mrs. H. W. Throop, Mr. and Mrs. John Sharratt, Mr. and Mrs. John S. Gee, Mr. and Mrs. E. F. Ziesmer, Mrs. Thomas Lindsay, Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Grant and W. A. Forbes.

<sup>34</sup>The charter members of Green Valley Camp were F. H. Deland, Fred Gee, Ernest Ziesmer, Burt Gee, W. A. Grant, James F. Knox, F. E. Markell, George

J. Reichert, H. M. Reichert, Joseph A. Reichert, H. N. Robinson, John Sharratt, William Sharratt, H. C. Stankey and H. W. Throop.

<sup>35</sup>"It is possible that there will be no station in Lyon county. . . . If another station or a siding is put in between Westline and Marshall, it will doubtless be on section 17 or 18, Clifton."—Marshall News-Messenger, August 16, 1901.

dent. The lots in the several plats along the new line of road were sold at public auction by the town lot company in April, 1902. A few were sold at Dudley at an average price of \$100.

Train service on the new road was established August 13, 1902, and two grain firms erected elevators to handle the season's crop. In the spring of 1903 the voters of Clifton township decided to build a town hall at the station and it was announced that the Hayes-Lucas Lumber Company would put in a lumber yard. Mrs. J. W. Castle conducted a store there three years. A village did not materialize at Dudley. The railroad station was closed March 3, 1904, and the grain business is the only one conducted there. A postoffice was maintained for a time.

#### BURCHARD.

Burchard is a grain buying point and siding on the Dakota Central division of the Chicago & Northwestern railroad, not far from the crossing of the Great Northern railroad. It is on the southwest quarter of section 11, Shelburne township, and is about six miles west from Balaton.

Soon after the railroad was constructed in 1879 an elevator was built and the place became known as Redwood Station. Excepting the elevator, there was no improvement at the station for several years. A townsite of two blocks was platted by the railroad company September 15, 1885, and soon thereafter came the beginning of a little village at Redwood Station.

During the winter of 1885-86 a hotel building was erected and opened by William Shafer and a general store was

established by P. C. McCann. A petition for a postoffice was circulated early in 1886, and after the department had rejected the names Redwood and Shelburne, it was established in April with the name Burchard. It was named in honor of H. M. Burchard, the railroad land agent of Marshall, and P. C. McCann was the postmaster.<sup>36</sup> The station was named Shelburne in April, 1886, but was later changed to Burchard to correspond with the postoffice. M. S. Fawcett in 1891 took charge of the Burchard hotel and conducted it for some time. A dwelling was put up by R. A. Bigham, who took charge of the elevator, and in 1889 a school house was located on the town plat. There was little call for a village at Burchard and now the only business conducted is the buying and shipping of grain during the fall seasons.

#### HECKMAN.

Heckman is a siding on the Northwestern railroad at Lake Marshall, five miles southeast of Marshall. An elevator of the Western Elevator Company is conducted by J. F. Brantner and a postoffice is in charge of Mrs. Brantner.

So early as 1876 the site was selected for a future station,<sup>37</sup> but no improvements marked the site until twelve years later. In June, 1888, a sidetrack was laid and the place appeared on the railroad folders as Heckman. At the same time a warehouse was erected, which was managed by W. F. Bryant. Grain was purchased and coal sold at the warehouse. J. F. Brantner became agent of the grain company in 1901 and the Heckman postoffice was established the same year.

<sup>36</sup>William Shafer later became postmaster, and later still M. S. Fawcett. Owen M. Owens was also postmaster for a time. The office was discontinued in 1911.

<sup>37</sup>"A stake has been stuck at Lake Marshall by the railroad magnates for a station some time in the future."—Marshall News, May 12, 1876.

## CAMDEN.

Camden, on the Redwood river a short distance above Lynd, was once a place of considerable importance in Lyon county, having a large gristmill and several business enterprises; now several families reside in the valley that was formerly Camden, but for many years there have been no business establishments.

In 1868 James Cummins and Jacob Rouse built a sawmill at the site of Camden, which they operated a few years. In the fall of 1874 George Smith, W. T. Ellis and Jacob Rouse, under the firm name of Smith, Ellis & Rouse, converted the sawmill into a gristmill, platted the Camden townsite, secured the establishment of a postoffice in December,<sup>38</sup> and were responsible for the founding of a flourishing little village. I can best give the early history of Camden by quoting from the *Prairie Schooner* of December 24, 1874, which said:

The outside world has just begun to hear mention of the town of Camden in Lyon county. It will probably hear more of it before the next transit of Venus. It is located on the Redwood river, two and one-half miles above Lynd, on land owned by Smith, Ellis & Rouse. It is snugly tucked away between two ranges of hills which afford a safe retreat from the winds of winter and furnish beautiful and refreshing scenery during the other portions of the year.

About eight acres have been platted, upon which have been built quite a number of houses, all with one exception since last August. Smith & Ellis have a store building, 20x40 feet with 20-foot posts. The lower part has a large and select stock of goods, sold by Smith & Ellis, and the upper story is occupied as a hotel kept by W. T. Ellis and family. W. M. Van Buren is employed by Mr. Ellis to make boots and shoes to order, and he is said to be an excellent workman. Ellis has built about 150 feet of stable for the accommodation of teams. A frame school house, 24x36 feet, is nearly completed and will be furnished with patent seats. School will be taught this winter by C. L. Van Fleet. On the east side of the river John Keyes has a blacksmith shop. In addition to these buildings and the gristmill are three residences of Keyes, Rouse, Tupper and Van Fleet. Other

buildings are expected to go up in the spring, which will give Camden the appearance of a right smart little burg.

The year of its founding was Camden's most progressive twelve-month. A church was erected nearby in 1875. At the beginning of the year 1876 the county paper described Camden as having "a large flouring mill, a store and plenty of timber and other desirable attractions." W. T. Ellis conducted the mill a few years and then sold to V. M. Smith. The latter operated the mill several years, and after several changes in management it passed into the hands of Jacob Rouse, who operated it many years and finally closed it. In the eighties W. R. Gregg conducted a store at Camden for about five years.

The final blow came to Camden when in 1888 the Great Northern railroad was built and a station was refused the village. Because of the topography of the site and the extensive grading necessary in the vicinity, it was impossible to establish a station there and the village of Lynd was built instead of Camden.

## OTHER PLACES.

Rock Lake was the name of a country postoffice established in 1873. It was first located on section 28, Lyons township, and Roland Weeks was the postmaster. He was succeeded by A. C. Dann and the office was moved to Mr. Dann's home on section 20, Lyons township. In November, 1874, J. A. Van Fleet received the appointment and moved the office to his home on section 4, Rock Lake township. He conducted the office until it was discontinued in 1881, after the establishment of the Balaton office. Mail was carried to the Rock Lake office from Marshall.

<sup>38</sup>W. T. Ellis was the first postmaster of Camden and served until 1875. He was succeeded by Jacob

Rouse and the latter in the eighties by Louis Crane. The office was discontinued many years ago.

Sham Lake was a postoffice established on the southwest quarter of section 2, Lucas township, in 1873. R. H. Price was the first and only postmaster. He opened a store at his place in 1874 and conducted it a few years. The postoffice was discontinued about 1880.

Blan Avon was the name of another country postoffice established about 1873, in Custer township. For a time it was in southern Sodus township. It was maintained only a few years.

On the Redwood river close to the Redwood county line—and part of the time in the other county—for about eleven years was conducted the Ceresco postoffice. It was established in 1872 and T. W. Castor was the first postmaster. A store and blacksmith shop were also conducted at Ceresco for a time in the seventies. Several different persons were in charge of the postoffice, W. J. Simmons having been postmaster in 1882.

Hildrethsburg postoffice was established in June, 1874. It was first located on section 20, Lyons township, and Henry Mussler was the first postmaster. Charles Hildreth, also of Lyons township, was appointed to the office in

February, 1875, and held it until it was discontinued in 1878 as the result of the burning of Mr. Hildreth's house.

Island Lake postoffice came into existence in June, 1874, with John R. King as postmaster. It was located at that gentleman's house on section 34, Island Lake township, and there Mr. King in the early days also kept a small stock of merchandise and conducted a "half-way" house for the travel between Marshall and Marshfield. In June, 1898, after the office had been operated at the same place for twenty-four years, it was moved to the home of C. A. Johnson and Mrs. Johnson became postmistress. The office has since been discontinued.

Brenner postoffice was established in Vallery township in December, 1875, with Ole O. Brenna as postmaster. It had an existence of twenty-eight years and was discontinued in November, 1903, as the result of the establishment of rural mail routes.<sup>39</sup>

Leo postoffice was established in July, 1880, on section 14, Lyons township, with Mrs. Libbie Millard in charge. She was postmistress until the office was discontinued April 1, 1892.

and O. H. Sterk was appointed and has since held the office.

"The mail was first carried from Redwood Falls by way of the old town of Yellow Medicine, Vineland or Voldeys, Stavanger and Brenner to Marshall and back over the same route, making the offices once a week each way. Later the route was changed and mail was carried from Willmar by way of Granite Falls, Vineland, Stavanger, Brenner, Marshall and Redwood Falls, delivering once a week each way. Soon after the establishment of the Cottonwood office mail was carried to Brenner from Cottonwood."—Cottonwood Current, November, 1903.

<sup>39</sup>"The Brenner postoffice in the northern part of this county is discontinued on account of the rural mail route established last week from Cottonwood. The records will be turned over to the postmaster of Cottonwood. . . .

"Brenner postoffice was established about 1875, with O. O. Brenna, Sr., as postmaster. The postoffice department evidently intended to give the office the name of the postmaster, but made the mistake of naming it Brenner. Mr. Brenna, Sr., held the office until 1889, when his son Ole became postmaster and held the position about two years. Then he resigned

## CHAPTER XVII.

### DESCRIPTIVE.

LYON county is situated in Southwestern Minnesota, one county only being between it and the South Dakota line, while two counties lie between it and the Iowa line. It is bounded on the north by Yellow Medicine county, on the east by Redwood county, on the south by Murray county, and on the west by Lincoln county. The county lies between the forty-fourth and forty-fifth degrees of latitude, and the ninety-sixth degree of longitude west from Greenwich passes through the western edge of the county.

The shape of Lyon county is rectangular. It contains twenty townships and its dimensions are thirty miles, north and south, by twenty-four miles, east and west. Its area is 720.66 square miles—more than one-half the area of Rhode Island. Of the total area, 709.50 square miles are land, while only 11.16 square miles are covered by water.<sup>1</sup>

A glance at the map of Minnesota and of the political division designated thereon as Lyon county will furnish the information above given. But there will be found nothing to distinguish Lyon county from the other divisions of

the vicinity except that there are many lakes and watercourses and a network of railroads. The lithographed piece of paper does not convey much idea of the country; a personal inspection is required to learn what it really is.

In general, the surface of Lyon county is a high, gently undulating plateau, though considerably diversified by rivers and lakes, some of which have bluff shores and some natural timber. While this describes the general contour, it varies considerably in different parts of the county. The northeast portion—roughly, that northeast of the Northwestern railroad—is more gently undulating than the other parts. The ascent of the land to the southwest in that district is six to ten feet per mile.

The southwestern portion is higher land, being on the western edge of the Coteau des Prairies. It can be described in general as a long plateau or massive ridge, in parts smoothly undulating or rolling in contour, but having two belts (terminal moraines, the geologists term them) which are very irregularly broken by steep hills, knolls and small ridges, twenty-five to one hundred feet above the intervening hollows.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Minnesota Geological Survey, 1884.

<sup>2</sup>Concerning the contour of Lyon county and creation of its physical features, I quote as length from the writings of Hon. Warren Upham in the Minnesota Geological and Natural History Survey of 1884, as follows:

"The second terminal moraine of the last ice-sheet, which is the eastern or inner belt of knolly and hilly drift upon the Coteau des Prairies, extends northwesterly in a nearly straight course from the Blue Mounds near Windom, in southern Cottonwood county, to Gary, in the edge of Dakota. In Lyon county its northeast boundary passes through the center of

The mean elevation of Lyon county above sea level is about 1320 feet. The lowest point is 1100 feet, at the place where the Redwood river leaves the county. The highest point is in the

Custer, Lyons and Island Lake townships. The most rough and hilly part of this moraine is from a half mile to one and a half miles wide at its northeast side, where it usually has many irregular knolls, short ridges and hills, which rise from twenty-five to fifty feet, and occasionally from seventy-five to one hundred feet, above the intervening depressions. Their conspicuous appearance, as seen from the northeast, is due to the ascent westward of the country upon which they lie. From the specially hilly northeast margin of this moraine belt its width reaches five to fifteen miles, southwestward, with a rolling and in some places knolly or hilly surface, including the greater part of the distance to the parallel outer range of drift hills, but leaving next to that a smooth, slightly undulating tract, three to five miles wide.

"The southeastern continuation of this third moraine may be represented by the rocky drift knolls, ten to twenty feet high, which occur about the north end and at the northeast side of Lake Marshall, in a region which mainly has a very smooth contour. Again, twelve miles farther to the east-southeast, a belt of typically morainic knolls, about twenty rods in width and a half mile or more in length, was noted close south of the Cottonwood river, on sections 14 and 15, Gales, in Redwood county.

"The Antelope valley. Between the third or Antelope moraine and the foot of the Coteau des Prairies on the west is the Antelope valley, so named by the Sioux. This is a broad shallow depression, or rather a part of an inclined plane with a slightly undulating surface of till, being three to ten miles wide and reputed to extend 125 miles, from Minnesota, in the northwest township of Lyon county, to the south bend of the Sheyenne river in Dakota. The moraine of the Antelope hills and the smooth area of till on its east side average twenty-five to fifty feet higher than the adjoining eastern border of the Antelope valley, but have some lower portions, allowing streams to cross both the valley and the moraine in their north-eastward course from the coteau to the Minnesota river.

"Modified drift. No extensive areas of modified drift were observed in this district. In a few places, however, small deposits of gravel and sand, partly kame-like, form the surface. A noteworthy cut in such beds was seen near Balaton, in southern Lyon county. A sixth of a mile southeast from this station, close southwest of the railroad, in a rounded hillock, an excavation has been made for ballast to a distance into the hillock of 150 feet, the section exposed being twenty rods or more in length and about twenty feet high in its highest part. It consists of gravel, yellowish and in many portions ferruginous, mostly very coarse and containing abundant pebbles up to six or eight inches in diameter, nearly all of them plainly water-worn or rounded. At four to seven feet below the top, for a depth of a hundred feet or so at the highest part, the material is fine, sandy gravel, obliquely bedded in slopes of five degrees to twenty-five degrees eastward. The central mass here is sand, while the enclosing strata are gravel, mostly with pebbles less than three inches in diameter, but in some places holding pebbles up to five or eight inches in diameter. The lenticular mass of sand occurring here shows two small faults at its center, each of three or four inches, the lower side being at the east. The stratification of this deposit is conformable with the slope of its surface, showing that it remains nearly or quite in the same form as it was left by the glacial floods.

"Only two fragments of rock that exceeded a foot in diameter were seen in this excavation. These were one and a half and three feet long. About one-third of the pebbles here, both large and small, are limestone; nearly all of the rest are granite and crystalline schists; only a few pebbles, as of shale, which could certainly be referred to the Cretaceous, were seen, and no quartzite or conglomerate. Many of the limestone fragments are obscurely fossiliferous. The top of this cut is about thirty feet above Lake Yankton and perhaps five feet below the top of the mound in which it is made. Similar gravel forms the subsoil and

southwestern corner, about 1750 feet above the sea. The estimated mean elevations of the several townships are as follows: Lucas, 1125; Stanley, 1130; Clifton, 1160; Amiret, 1225; Monroe,

extends to a depth of thirty feet in wells at Balaton station, and reaches thence a half mile to the northwest, beside the lake, and two or three miles easterly along the railroad.

"Cretaceous beds. Sandstone, clay and shale, of Cretaceous age, are believed to underlie the glacial drift throughout the greater part of this district [Lyon, Yellow Medicine and Lincoln counties]; but their only natural exposures found during this survey are a few low outcrops of sandstone in northwestern Lyon county and northeastern Lincoln county.

"The most eastern outcrop of the Cretaceous sandstone is near the center of section 7, Westerheim, in the west or left bank of the south branch of the Yellow Medicine river about a half mile from its junction with the north branch. A hard, gray, somewhat calcareous sandstone is here exposed at several points along a distance of eight or ten rods, rising three to seven feet above this creek. So far as can be seen in these somewhat broken ledges the layers of this rock appear to be two or three feet or more in thickness and nearly level. In some parts their weathered surface shows concretionary structure, being dotted with roundish masses from an eighth to a quarter of an inch in diameter, which have resisted the disintegrating effects of frost and rain, so that they stand out slightly from the rest of the stone.

"About a mile northwest from this place numerous blocks of the same sandstone, up to six or eight feet in length, were seen in the channel of the north branch of Yellow Medicine river, on the southeast quarter of section 1, Eidsvold, but no ledge of it in place was observed here. One of these blocks, about five feet long, showing the concretionary character mentioned, contains numerous small flakes and particles of lignite and soft peaty matter.

"Another has been sculptured by natural agencies, perhaps influenced by some massive concretionary structure, so that in form it resembles the trunk of a tree.

Mr. Simon Howland, who owns and lives on this quarter section, believing it to be a fossilized tree, has removed it to a location near his house. The length of this stone is six and one-half feet, and its diameter at one end is three and one-half feet and at the other two and one-half feet. Its stratification is plainly seen at the smaller end, being in layers from one to four and five inches thick. Iron-rusted laminæ, a twentieth of an inch thick, sometimes mark the planes of bedding. The weathered surface is in part perforated with holes from a quarter of an inch to one inch long and about a twentieth of an inch in diameter, similar to those of worm-eaten wood. Other portions exhibit a concretionary structure in small roundish masses and inscudated ridges, a fourth of an inch in diameter or width. Sulphuret of iron is seen in two or three places, in somewhat cylindrical masses, about one and a half inches long, consisting of straight fibers and surrounded by stains of iron-rust.

"At another point near the foregoing, soft white matter fills a straight tube in this stone, one and one-half inches long and a quarter of an inch in diameter. These are believed to be in the places originally occupied by fragments of wood but are the only trace of organic remains seen in this block. Its surface is soft and easily cut with a knife to a depth of about a quarter of an inch, but farther within it is very hard.

"This rock is exposed about five miles to the southwest, on the northeast quarter of section 20, Eidsvold, on land of Henry Jacobs, being visible along an extent of about four rods in the bed of a small creek and rising one or two feet. It is a compact, hard sandstone, blue inside, but brownish gray on the surface. The characteristic concretionary structure was seen here only in a detached block, which, however, was doubtless derived from the underlying ledge. Again, near the west line of this township and county, the same formation outcrops along an extent of about twenty feet, with a height of one to two feet, in the north bank of the north branch of Yellow Medicine river, on the southwest quarter of the northwest quarter of section 7, Eidsvold.

1400; Vallery, 1150; Fairview, 1175; Lake Marshall, 1200; Sodus, 1300; Custer, 1460; Westerheim, 1175; Grandview, 1200; Lynd, 1300; Lyons, 1450; Rock Lake, 1560; Eidsvold, 1200; Nordland, 1350; Island Lake, 1500; Coon Creek, 1625; Shelburne, 1700.

The soil is what is termed drift deposit by the geologists. It has the same uniform fertility that characterizes all southern and western Minnesota. There is no outcrop of the bed-rock, but in the two hilly belts are some boulders and increased portions of gravel and sand.

Vegetable decay has enriched the soil and colored it black to a depth that averages about two feet, but varied from one to four feet, being greatest in depressions and least upon swells or knolls. Beneath the black soil boulder-clay extends to a depth of fifty to two hundred feet. It is yellowish and soft to a depth of ten to twenty feet and below that is dark bluish and harder. This soil is made up of materials gathered during the Ice Age in regions to the north and spread over the country. It is principally clay, but also includes some sand and gravel and occasional boulders.

The great depth of soil contributes to its durability, and its fertile properties appear almost inexhaustible. One of its peculiarities is its remarkable ability to resist drought. In time of exceedingly dry weather, a thin crust forms on the surface and retards evaporation below without being firm enough to interfere seriously with the growth of

vegetation. The loam is free from surface water and ready for cultivation as soon as the frost leaves the ground in the spring.

Much of the water that falls as rain is absorbed by the soil and is gradually given up to growing crops. The surplus water of heavy rains and melting snow is soon drained away down the undulating slopes and through the water-courses. Nearly the whole county is prairie and was originally covered with wild grass.

Several scientific analyses of the soil have been made, and by all authorities it has been pronounced as containing elements of extraordinary fertility. But the magnificent crops which the soil of Lyon county produces speak more eloquently than the scientist can. The testimony of farmers who have accumulated wealth and independence affords unquestionable proof of the richness of the soil.

Natural timber occurs only in narrow belts along the rivers and in groves of small area bordering the lakes. The largest tract of timber is in the deeply excavated valley of the upper Redwood river in Lynd and Lyons townships. There the wooded area is about 2000 acres. Along the Cottonwood is a tract of about 1000 acres, and on the Yellow Medicine a tract of about 600 acres. These timber tracts were quite heavy originally, but have been considerably cleared.

There is no section of country in the United States which has a smaller proportion of waste lands. Except for the

"On section 11, Custer, on land of James Morgan, much lignite in small fragments is found along the large southern branch of the Cottonwood river, which there and thence northeast to Amiret has cut a valley seventy-five to one hundred feet deep. A tunnel has been dug into the lower part of the bluff by Mr. Morgan, where springs occur at the top of a light bluish clay that is supposed to be of Cretaceous age, and in this tunnel pieces of lignite and of wood were found.

"Clay or shale, containing fossils characteristic of the Fort Pierre and Fox Hills groups, the upper divisions of the Cretaceous series, has been encountered

in numerous instances by wells in Yellow Medicine and Lyon counties near the foot of the slope which forms the eastern boundary of the Coteau des Prairies. Doubtless some of these wells have reached Cretaceous strata in place; but others evidently have been wholly in the glacial drift, containing disrupted and transported masses of Cretaceous shale with fossils. The frequency of these fossils in the drift indicates that the upper Cretaceous formations originally covered much of this district and supplied a large part of the drift, and that they probably underlie the drift here and in the Coteau des Prairies."

area actually taken up by the waters of lakes and creeks, all is tillable, even to the tops of the hills and knolls and in the bottom lands. Lyon county has not the rocky, untillable land of many of the eastern states; it has not the marshy, untillable land of other parts of the country.

The climate is healthful. Owing to the more perfect drainage afforded by the many streams, Lyon county surpasses neighboring, entirely prairie counties in point of healthfulness as a result of the dryness of the atmosphere. The natural drainage not only prevents an accumulation of stagnant water, which breeds disease germs, but it purifies the air as only rapid streams can.

Lyon county has one of the most perfect and complete systems of drainage of any section of Southwestern Minnesota. With the exception of about fifteen or twenty square miles of territory in Rock Lake and Custer townships, which is drained to Lake Shetek and the Des Moines river, all the area of Lyon county is drained by streams emptying into the Minnesota river. The principal streams are Yellow Medicine river, which drains the northern part; Redwood river and Three-Mile creek, which drain the central portions; and Cottonwood river, which drains the southern part. These and their numerous tributaries furnish excellent drainage.

The basin of the Yellow Medicine<sup>3</sup> includes about 600 square miles, of which 140 lie in Lyon county. The farthest source of the river is Lake Shaokatan, fifty miles southwest from the mouth. There are several small tributaries in Lyon county.

About 325 square miles of Lyon

county's area is drained by the Redwood river. The stream rises in Lake Benton and flows a northeasterly course sixty miles to the Minnesota. Its largest tributary is Three-Mile creek, which rises near the west line of Lyon county, flows northeast twenty miles, nearly parallel with the Redwood and from three to five miles northwest of it, and enters the latter stream in Stanley township. Valleys thirty to forty feet deep have been eroded by the Redwood in the vicinity of Marshall and thence to the east line of the county, and the same is true of Three-Mile creek from Ghent to the point where it enters the Redwood.

The Cottonwood river, by many tributaries, drains about 240 square miles in southern and southeastern Lyon county. The northern and main branch of this stream flows eastward nearly through the center of Lake Marshall township, only two or three miles south of the Redwood. That branch flows through an eroded valley. Another important branch rises in Murray county, flows a northeasterly course between Rock and Yankton lakes, passes a little south of the village of Amiret, and joins the other branch close to the county line.

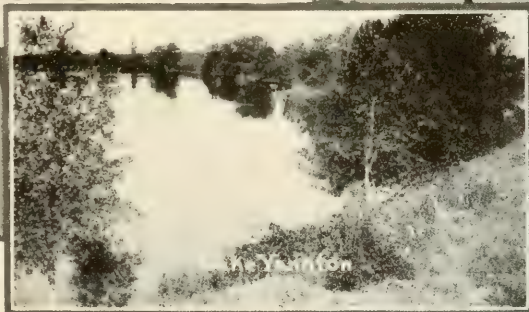
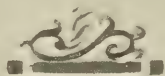
The seven thousand acres of Lyon county that are water surface are taken up by numerous small lakes. Many of these are beautiful bodies of water, clear and sparkling, abounding with fish.

One of the most beautiful lakes in the county is Cottonwood lake, on whose shores the village of Cottonwood is situated. It is a small body of water and has some timber on its shores. Another little body of water in Lucas township is Lone Tree lake, two miles northwest of Cottonwood. In the same

<sup>3</sup>Yellow Medicine is a translation of the Sioux word *Pejut zizi*, by which the stream was called by the Indians. *Pejut zizi* is the long, slender, bitter, yellow

root of the moonseed and was used by the Indians as a medicine. The plant is common along the bluffs of streams in Minnesota.

# Some Lyon County Lakes





township are several other lake beds which contain water some seasons and are dry others. They are Sham lake on section 3, Lady Shoe lake on 20 and 21, Lady Slipper lake and School Grove lake in the southeastern part.

Swan and Goose lakes are on the line dividing Redwood and Lyon counties in Stanley township. Clifton and Amiret townships have no lakes. Two miles south of Tracy is pretty little Lake Sigel, about three-fourths of a mile in diameter. In western Monroe and eastern Custer townships are three little bodies of water which should have been called Triplet lakes, but which are called Twin lakes; one is now dry. Long lake is on the south line of Custer township, and the bed of Lake of the Hills is a little north of it. There are no lakes in Sodus township and only one in Lake Marshall. The lake after which that township was named is one and one-half miles long; it lies in the southeast corner of the township at Heckman station.

The north central part of Lyon county is destitute of lakes, there being none in Fairview, Vallery, Westerheim, Grandview and Lynd. Formerly there was Rush lake, near the center of Lyons township, but it is now dry. In Rock Lake township are two lakes of some size—Lake Yankton at Balaton, and Rock lake in the northwest corner of the township. In southwestern Shelburne township are a cluster of little lakes, which are dry some seasons. A beautiful little body of water, about a mile in diameter and fringed with timber, lies in northern Coon Creek township. It is Wood lake, or Lake Marguerite. In Island Lake township are two lakes—Goose lake, with an area of about 160 acres, and Island lake, with an area of over 200 acres. In the latter is an

island containing about three acres of land and covered with trees. Both these lakes are dry some seasons. Nordland and Eidsvold townships have no lakes.

Lyon is an agricultural county. The principal products are corn, barley, oats, wheat, rye, flax, livestock, dairy products, poultry, fruit and vegetables. In the early days the settlers confined their energies almost exclusively to wheat raising. Now diversified farming is the rule. Every farmer raises stock and many engage in dairying on a large scale. While agriculture is the principal pursuit, manufacturing occupies an important place among the county's industries. The manufactories include gristmills, brick and tile factories, creameries, etc.

Lyon county has developed beyond the point reached by many counties of Southwestern Minnesota. With transportation facilities it is well supplied. Excepting Stanley, Nordland, Island Lake and Sodus, every township in the county is touched by one or more railroads, and railroads are within two miles of each of the exceptions. The Chicago & Northwestern traverses the county from southeast to northwest, crosses the southern part of the county and has a branch line to Marshall from the east, while the Great Northern traverses the county from northeast to southwest. There are many villages, which furnish good markets for grain and produce and are convenient trading points.

The county has excellent wagon roads. Local and long distance telephone lines form a complete network and every community is reached. Twenty-three rural free delivery mail routes are operated from Lyon county postoffices, and there are few farms to which mail is not delivered daily.

Lyon county land can be purchased at from \$40 to \$100 per acre, according to improvements and proximity to markets, and, considering the richness of the soil, the excellent markets and the educational and social advantages offered, it is not easy to understand why any homeseekers pass through this country to the bleak prairies of the Dakotas or Canada. Lyon county land, at the price at which it can now be obtained, is cheaper, all things considered, than the Dakota or Canada land at the present prices, for the settlers there will be compelled to spend more than the difference in price to bring those countries up to the condition of this.

The farmer in the older states east and south can dispose of an eighty-acre farm and with the proceeds purchase a quarter section in Lyon county, and in making the change he will lose none of the advantages and conveniences enjoyed. There will be no frontier hardships to endure, no years of lonely toil in a sparsely settled country, nothing lacking in the way of social pleasures or the advantages of schools and churches.

Another advantage of Lyon county

that must not be lost sight of is its proximity to the great markets. It is within easy reach of the Minneapolis, St. Paul, Sioux City, Omaha and Chicago markets. Their nearness and the low freight rates in effect insure high prices for farm products sold there and low prices for commodities purchased there.

Lyon county holds most alluring prospects for farmers who are in search of rich and productive lands close to markets, where they may establish homes amid schools and churches and congenial surroundings. There are a few tracts yet to be put under cultivation, and there are large farms that may be subdivided, while other farms that are now in the hands of renters might be improved by resident owners.

The county is capable of supporting more than three times the number of farmers it now has. The local creameries want more cream, the merchants want more produce, the elevators want more grain, the stockbuyers want more cattle and hogs, and all around is a demand for the products of Lyon county—a demand that cannot be taken away.

## CHAPTER XVIII.

### THE PRESS

**D**URING the thirty-nine years of Lyon county's newspaper history twenty-four weekly papers have been established. Of this number, nine are in existence when this volume is issued in 1912, namely: Marshall News-Messenger, by C. C. Whitney; Lyon County Reporter (Marshall), by Frank W. Case; Tracy Headlight, by J. D. Gilpin; Tracy Herald, by O. J. Rea; Minneota Mascot, by G. B. Bjornson; Cottonwood Current, by Huddleston & Sisson; Balaton Press-Tribune, by Press-Tribune Publishing Company, edited by E. F. Whiting; Russell Anchor, by Fred E. Child; and Garvin Leader, published by John Holden, Jr., and edited by E. M. Jones.

Those journals which have gone out of existence were as follows: Prairie Schooner, Marshall Messenger and Lyon County News, from which was formed the News-Messenger; Lyon County Leader, which was published at Marshall and for a short time at Balaton; the Tracy Gazette, Trumpet, Republican and Republican-Trumpet, from which developed the Tracy Headlight; Minneota Prospect, Vinland (an Icelandic paper published at Minneota), Cottonwood Leader, Cottonwood Gazette, Balaton Journal, Eagle, Times, Bystander, Press and Tribune (the last two named

merged into the Press-Tribune), and Russell Review.

In pioneer communities of the West the establishment of the first paper was always an item of great importance. A new settlement required a champion, and not until it boasted a news journal was its permanency assured. After the founding of the pioneer journal it became "our paper" to all the residents—an institution in which to take pride—and everybody assumed the duty of seeing that it was properly supported. Sentiment entered largely into the new enterprise, and it has seldom occurred that the pioneer paper did not have a long life of usefulness.

The little settlement at Marshall was no exception to the rule, and when the first paper was launched it was an institution in which great pride was taken. In the month of August, 1873, J. C. Ervin brought to Marshall a printing plant and on the twenty-third of that month took from the press the first copy of the Prairie Schooner, the first news journal published in Lyon county. The plant consisted of a Washington hand-press, the platen of which was said to have at one time been used as a door step, two cases of badly worn body type, eight or ten cases of advertising type, cigar-box slug cases, and a tin-covered imposing stone.

The office in which the *Prairie Schooner* was launched was 12x18 feet, and it was occupied also as the offices of Dr. S. V. Groesbeck and Major J. W. Blake. The name of the publication was suggested by General Pierce. The subscription price was \$2.00 per year and its size was a seven-column folio, of which two pages only were printed in the home office. In the spring of 1874 it was enlarged to an eight-column folio. In politics it was Republican. Mr. Ervin had charge of the pioneer journal until the last day of the year 1874.<sup>1</sup>

C. F. Case, who had formerly published the *Waverly*, Iowa, Republican and who has ever since lived in Marshall, purchased the *Prairie Schooner* from Mr. Ervin December 31, 1874. The next October he changed the name to *Marshall Messenger*. There were several changes in the size of the *Messenger* under Mr. Case's management, it having been made a seven-column folio in May, 1877, enlarged to eight columns in March, 1878, and made a six-column quarto, with four pages printed at home, in August, 1880, which form it retained. Howard Brothers leased the *Messenger* from Mr. Case in November, 1884, and the following month the plant was purchased by C. C. Whitney, of the *Lyon County News*. Arthur Howard got out a few issues for Mr. Whitney and on January 16, 1885, the two papers were

combined, the merger resulting in the *News-Messenger*.

The *Lyon County News* was founded May 28, 1879, by W. M. Todd and George A. Edes. It was established as a seven-column folio and was Independent Republican in politics.<sup>2</sup> Mr. Todd became sole proprietor December 3, 1879, and on April 21, 1880, he sold to George B. Gee. C. C. Whitney, who has continuously conducted the paper for the past thirty-two years, bought from Mr. Gee on November 17, 1880, and turned the *News* into a Republican journal. It was enlarged and improved and put on a paying basis.

Having purchased the *Messenger* from Mr. Case, Mr. Whitney on January 16, 1885, consolidated the *Marshall papers* and in their place produced the *News-Messenger*. Frank C. Whitney secured an interest in the publication September 15, 1893, and until February, 1907, was associated with his father in its management. C. C. Whitney has since been sole publisher.

The *Marshall News-Messenger* has become one of the leading and most liberally quoted weekly newspapers of Minnesota and its publisher is one of the state's best known newspaper men. The paper consists of twelve or more pages, all printed in the home office. The plant is a model one. The office is modern in every way, being equipped

<sup>1</sup>W. M. Todd in after years wrote of the establishment of the *Prairie Schooner* and its publisher: "I well remember the visit of J. C. Ervin when he came to look the place over as a newspaper field. He was very affable, and the people and he from the beginning seemed to be satisfied with each other. He had been accustomed to frontier life and easily adapted himself to the conditions which he found. He set up his outfit in the little building which had been surveyors' headquarters."

Mr. Ervin was the founder of many papers, among them the *Fort Dodge Times*, *Liberty Messenger* and the *Blade* (later the *Minneapolis Times*). For many years he was editor of the *Chicago Express*, city editor of the *Chicago Daily Dispatch* and afterwards was connected with the *Chicago American*. In later years he was editorial writer on the *Joliet, Illinois, News* and edited the *Fresno, California, Democrat*. He devoted many years to literary work and was the author of several books. Mr. Ervin died in San Francisco in the spring of 1912.

<sup>2</sup>"During the latter part of the seventies I became infested by newspaper microbes and was seriously considering launching a newspaper at Marshall. . . . While the question was being pondered, along came George Edes, an old newspaper man with a still older printing outfit, looking for a location. He at once sought me and made overtures to join him in starting a paper. . . . The question of the political complexion of the paper was settled by his proposal that I do the writing and he attend to the mechanical part. I needed no coaxing, and the *Lyon County News* made a weekly medium through which facts, fads and fancies were dished up in delectable style to such as would condescend to read them. In a few months I purchased the interests of Mr. Edes and proceeded to float the enterprise alone, in connection with other duties, until I found by experience more or less disastrous and depressing that a newspaper was not so sure a path to wealth, fame and glory as I had always supposed. After I found what an expensive plaything it was I sold it to the office foreman, George Gee."—W. M. Todd, 1903.

with a Junior Mergenthaler typesetting machine, large cylinder press, folder, three job presses, bindery, etc. The machinery is operated by individual electric motors.

The next paper established in the county seat was a Peoples Party organ, the Lyon County Leader. It was founded April 26, 1895, by M. V. B. Scribner, who conducted it for a number of years against great odds and with poor success. The plant was moved to Balaton in May, 1901, and publication of the Leader was there continued for a few months. In August, 1901, the subscription list was turned over to the publisher of the Tracy Herald and Mr. Scribner moved the plant away.

C. F. Case, the former publisher of the Marshall Messenger, founded the Lyon County Reporter at Marshall December 20, 1889.<sup>3</sup> It was then and has ever since been Republican in politics. At the time of founding it was a nine-column folio; it has undergone several changes in form and is now a seven-column quarto. An excellent paper was issued and the Reporter at once became a popular institution. The founder conducted the Reporter alone until July 23, 1898, when his son, Frank W. Case, secured an interest and the publishing firm became C. F. Case & Son. The elder Mr. Case retired in 1899 and gave the property to his sons, Frank W. and Fred H. Case. The former became sole proprietor the next year and he has ever since been the publisher.

The Reporter has taken its place as one of the substantial institutions of Lyon county and is a good paper. The plant is modern and well equipped. A Simplex typesetting machine was installed in the spring of 1899 and was the

first installed west of the Mississippi river. The first home of the Reporter was the room now occupied by Kieth's photograph gallery, and the present quarters in the Case Block have been occupied since 1897.

The first paper in Tracy and the predecessor, several degrees removed, of the Tracy Headlight, was the Tracy Gazette, which was founded in the fall of 1879 by D. W. Kutchin. The pioneer paper was anything but a financial success and its proprietor had a hard time to keep it in existence. Mr. Kutchin departed for the East in the early fall of 1880 and left the paper in other hands. In March, 1881, publication was suspended but the next month Mr. Kutchin returned and revived the paper.

For over three years the pioneer newspaper man of Tracy was at the head of the Gazette. The plant was then purchased by W. M. Todd, who on March 30, 1883, established the Tracy Trumpet as the successor of the Gazette. He was a more able newspaper man than his predecessor and published the Trumpet successfully nearly two years. The paper was purchased in February, 1885, by O. J. Rea and H. C. Buckingham, who made it a Democratic paper. The following August Mr. Rea became sole proprietor and published the Trumpet until July 1, 1892.

The purchaser at that time was V. W. Lothrop. He was the publisher until July 2, 1894, when the office passed into the hands of T. A. Cashman and Miss Mame Starr. The latter was manager of the Trumpet and conducted it until October, 1898. The firm of Starr & Cashman was then dissolved and the property reverted to the former owner. For a few weeks the paper was issued

<sup>3</sup>For a few months the paper was also issued under the titles *Minneota Standard* and *Cottonwood Enterprise*. Each of those villages had local reporters, and

advertisements from each village were run, in all editions.

by Mrs. Florence R. Lothrop, and in December, 1898, the plant was purchased by H. F. Seiter. He made the Trumpet a Peoples Party organ and was the publisher until August, 1899. Jackson & Anson were the publishers from that time until May, 1900, and Jay Jackson then became publisher and conducted the journal as a Republican organ. He was succeeded a few months later by David Stafford, who was in charge only a short time. The Trumpet had not been a paying investment for some years, and in December, 1900, the plant reverted to a former owner, H. F. Seiter. He sold the plant the following month to the owner of the Tracy Republican, who consolidated the two publications.

The Tracy Republican was founded by Edward and Frank Lawrence in March, 1885. Their efforts to make a success of the venture resulted in failure and in 1887 they sold to W. R. Edwards, who put the paper on a sound footing. Mr. Edwards purchased the Trumpet plant in January, 1901, consolidated the two, and continued publication under the name of Republican-Trumpet. He retired in 1910 after twenty-three years of continuous publication of the one paper.

The Republican-Trumpet was purchased by Bert L. English May 20, 1910. He changed the name to Tracy Headlight and presided over the destinies of the pioneer newspaper two years, conducting it as a Progressive Republican paper. Mr. English has lived in Tracy since childhood and learned the printer's trade on the paper he later edited. On May 10, 1912, J. D. Gilpin purchased the Headlight.

O. J. Rea, a former owner of the Trumpet, founded the Tracy Weekly Herald September 4, 1894, making the

third paper in the village at the time. He has ever since been the proprietor and nearly all the time has had the active management. Mr. Rea was appointed postmaster in the spring of 1896 and J. M. Riegel became associated with the owner in the management and was the editor. That gentleman leased the plant in January, 1898, and had sole charge until Mr. Rea's time expired in the spring of 1900. Since the last named date Mr. Rea has not had associates in the business.

The Herald is independent in politics and fearless in its utterances. Mr. Rea has always been independent enough to criticize wrong in politics or local matters. The paper is a seven-column quarto.

Minneota's first newspaper was not long-lived or a success. It was the Minneota Prospect and was founded by Clyde W. Rea in July, 1888. He published it only until October of the same year.

The first issue of the Minneota Mascot was taken from the press September 4, 1891. The founder was J. P. Byrne, who had come from Madison to teach the Minneota school. For six weeks the new journal was under the management of J. F. Paige, who had formerly published the Montevideo Leader, and then the business and editorial control was assumed by Mr. Byrne. W. H. Deen purchased an interest April 21, 1893, and was associated with Mr. Byrne in the publication until September 25 of the same year. W. W. Davy became the editor October 26, 1894, and served one month. With these exceptions, Mr. Byrne was the editor and proprietor until January 28, 1895.

The Mascot was purchased on the date last mentioned by S. Th. Westdal and G. B. Bjornson, young men who had

grown to manhood in Minneota, Mr. Westdal having been employed on the paper for about two years. The following August Mr. Westdal became sole proprietor and he conducted the Mascot until April 15, 1900. On that date G. B. Bjornson assumed the management and later the same year he purchased the plant, and he has ever since been the editor and proprietor.

Mr. Bjornson has built up a successful business and has made the Mascot a power in the affairs of Minneota and Lyon county. His paper is conceded to be one of the very best country weeklies in Minnesota published in a town the size of Minneota. It is Independent Republican politically and its editorial utterances are widely copied throughout the state. The Mascot was founded as an eight-column folio, was made a six-column quarto in 1899, and was enlarged to a seven-column quarto in 1905.

In the spring of 1902 Mr. Bjornson began the publication of Vinland from the Mascot office. This is the only Icelandic newspaper ever published in the United States. Publication was continued until 1908.

Cottonwood's first newspaper was the Cottonwood Leader, established August 28, 1891, by G. E. Graber. The venture was an absolute failure and in November of the year of its birth publication was suspended. The plant, which had been purchased with nothing more substantial than promises to pay, was left in the village and from it was later issued the Cottonwood Current.

W. H. Mullane founded the Cottonwood Current in February, 1892, taking over the subscription list of the defunct Leader. He was succeeded a few months later by E. I. Raymond, who in December, 1892, departed and left the field

vacant. The people of Cottonwood were anxious to have the paper continued and with inexperienced help they managed to get out a few editions. A company was then formed to purchase the plant and continue publication.

The Current was purchased by J. F. Paige in January, 1893, and on April 22 of the same year the plant was destroyed by fire. The proprietor replaced the plant and continued publication until September, when he sold to W. H. Deen, formerly of the Minneota Mascot. W. D. Lovelace purchased the Current March 3, 1894, and was its editor and publisher for more than ten years. He sold to C. W. Folsom August 13, 1904, and the latter to the present owners, W. J. Huddleston and W. A. Sisson, on October 6, 1905. Those gentlemen have since been in charge and have greatly improved the Current. The paper is now a six-column quarto.

Cottonwood Gazette was the name of a paper that had an existence of less than two years in the nineties. It was established by C. G. Strand in June, 1896, and W. C. Smith became the proprietor in March, 1897. In the latter part of the same year publication was suspended.

Of the many news journals that have at one time and another been published at Balaton the first was the Balaton Journal. It was founded by A. N. Daniels early in 1887 and was published by him nearly two years. C. C. Whitney & Company, of Marshall, became the publishers on January 1, 1889, and the local management was given to R. B. Caldwell. That gentleman was succeeded in the fall of 1890 by John H. Call. The Journal was sold in February, 1891, to J. Gitzy, who published it about one month and then suspended publication.

Balaton's second newspaper was the Balaton Eagle. In January, 1893, C. L. Wing, who had been publishing the Woodstock Eagle, moved the plant to the Lyon county village. The Balaton Eagle did not bring great returns to its publisher and in October, 1893, Mr. Wing departed and left the Eagle unable to fly. Publication was resumed in December by Miller & Estey, but the venture was not a success and the plant was sold at auction in April, 1895, and moved away.

The Balaton Times was established by Jackson & Anson early in 1900 and was printed in the proprietors' Tracy Trumpet office. Publication was suspended in April, 1900, at which time the subscription list and good will were sold to the newly founded Balaton Bystander.

The founder of the Bystander was Professor W. M. Snyder, who in March, 1900, got out the first issue. He put a small plant in the village, most of the money to pay for which had been raised by subscription. Professor Snyder was not a success as a newspaper man and the life of the Bystander was short.

From May to August, 1901, the Lyon County Leader was published in Balaton by M. V. B. Scribner, who for several years previously had published the paper at Marshall.

The Balaton Press was established early in January, 1903, by J. H. Rush, and for more than seven years it was published by him, the mechanical work having been done in the office of the Lake Benton News. It was not a financial success, but certain interests in Balaton required an organ and the

paper was kept alive. It was published until consolidated with the Tribune in 1910.

In August, 1905, C. H. Smith took a plant to Balaton and put forth the Balaton Tribune. The village was hardly large enough to support one paper, but the new paper was backed by interests that also required an organ. In the spring of 1907 the owners of a bill of sale of the Tribune plant given by Mr. Smith was enforced and a receiver was appointed. The bill of sale did not cover the title of the paper or the subscription list, but these were taken by the new owners and the dispute between the interested parties found its way to the courts.<sup>4</sup> F. J. Sherry became the proprietor of the Tribune after Mr. Smith was ousted and continued publication until the consolidation in 1910.

The two Balaton papers were consolidated March 15, 1910, and the Balaton Press-Tribune took their place, the new paper being printed in the Tribune office. The paper has since been edited by E. F. Whiting, while H. G. Towne has been business manager. The Press-Tribune was enlarged to a six-column quarto on October 15, 1911. It is Republican in politics and is an influential publication.

Early in 1901 a newspaper bearing a Russell date line made its appearance, printed in an outside office. In May of the same year W. J. Huddleston took a plant to the little town and established the Russell Review, which he conducted until October, 1905. Then he purchased an interest in the Cottonwood Current

<sup>4</sup>"The Balaton Tribune was formerly owned and published by C. H. Smith, who had given a bill of sale of his printing material to certain parties in the village. It appears that friction occurred between the owner or owners of the bill of sale and the editor on account of the policy of the paper toward certain matters of local interest, and the bill of sale was enforced by the appointment of a receiver, who was put in charge of the office and paper; the editor was eliminated and the

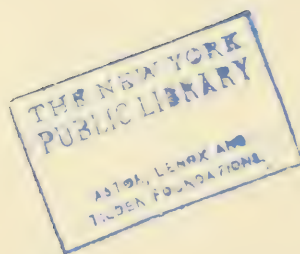
publication of the paper was continued by the parties holding the bill of sale, who not only controlled the office and business, but seized the subscription list and demanded and received the mail of the late editor. Mr. Smith now brings suit against his successors for damages, claiming that the bill of sale was confined to the material of the office."—Marshall News-Messenger, October 25, 1907.

and left Russell without a newspaper. After a lapse of three weeks the Russell Review was revived. C. P. Eastman purchased Mr. Huddleston's interests, picked up a plant by purchase from several offices, and early in November got out his first issue. It was up-hill work publishing a paper in a village the size of Russell, but he kept it alive until December, 1906, when he moved the plant to Osakis, Minnesota.

Russell was not long without an organ of publicity. On May 16, 1907, L. H. Rairdon founded the Russell Anchor. He conducted it until March, 1909, and it was then purchased by two Russell business men, F. S. Purdy and B. Leknes. Those gentlemen were the pub-

lishers until July 29, 1909, when the present owner, Fred E. Child, purchased the plant. Mr. Child has made a success of the business and has a well equipped office. The Anchor is a six-column quarto, of which four pages are printed in the home office.

After retiring from the Balaton Tribune, C. H. Smith moved to Garvin and on August 16, 1907, launched the Garvin Leader. It was founded as a six-column folio and that has ever since been the size. Mr. Smith sold the Leader in June, 1911, to ten business men of the village. Since that time the publishers have been John Holden, Jr., and F. D. Pinckney and the editor has been E. M. Jones.



## CHAPTER XIX.

### REMINISCENT.

IN gathering data for a volume of this kind one runs across many stories of the early days for which no place can be found in the historical part but which are truly interesting and in many instances throw vivid light on early day conditions. These have been preserved and are here incorporated under the chapter heading "Reminiscent." Some of the stories have been written by early day residents; some are taken from the files of the local press; others are original, prepared by the author from data gathered from personal interviews.

#### THE PRAIRIE FIRES.

Those who lived in Lyon county during the years of its early settlement, and up into the eighties, will never forget the alarm caused by the approach of a prairie fire. Many of the present generation are skeptical of the dangers to life and property from this source. Others can but marvel at the conditions that made a prairie fire dangerous or even possible. But conditions in the early days differed greatly from those of the present time. Then there were vast stretches of sparsely settled and unbroken prairie, covered with a dense growth of grass, which in the low places often grew to a great height. In the

fall the grass died and formed a thick covering of highly inflammable material, which "burned like a prairie fire" when it became ignited.

When a heavy wind accompanied one of these conflagrations the effect was thrilling. The flames would race over the prairie with the speed of the wind, leaping, bounding, rushing on their fiery way. By day the air would be filled with smoke and cinders and the atmosphere would become hazy; at night the heavens would be illumined by the blaze, and the bright lines of the raging fires could be seen, often miles in length. After the passing, the prairie would be left a blackened waste.

The few scattered settlers were in great danger of loss when one of these fires approached. Many settlers lost their whole belongings, and but few escaped without loss from this source. "Firebreaks," made by plowing furrows around the buildings or hay stacks, sometimes served as a check to the flames, but with a strong head wind the flames often jumped hundreds of feet, and in such cases the breaks were no protection. The favorite method of fighting fires was by "back-firing." When one of the terrors of the prairie was seen approaching with the wind, a fire would be set near the property to be saved. This, small at first, could be

controlled and whipped out on the leeward side, leaving the flames to slowly eat their way windward to meet the coming lurid destroyer. Sometimes a space of sufficient width was thus burned over in time to prevent the destruction. In case of a big conflagration, fire fighting companies would be organized to go out and contend with the flames, using dampened sacks, quilts, or whatever was handy, to whip out the blaze.

Prairie fires continued a menace to the people of Lyon county many years, or until the county had become quite thickly settled and subdued. Seldom did an autumn pass in the early days without one or more disastrous conflagrations in some part of the county. Several times the villages were threatened with destruction, and companies had to be formed to go out and fight the approaching flames.

One of the most destructive of the early day fires occurred in the fall of 1871. It was started in Lyons township, where a homesteader set a fire to burn refuse hay. It spread rapidly, extending south to the Cottonwood river, north to the Yellow Medicine river, and east as far as Redwood Falls. The hay and grain of practically all the settlers in the burned district were consumed and the homes of some of the settlers were destroyed. A little patch of frost-bitten grass was found that had been protected by the river, and the homesteaders cut that to keep their stock through the winter.

The fourteen-year-old daughter of James Armstrong, who lived close to where Marshall was later built, had died the day before of scarlet fever, and preparations for the first funeral in the community were being made when the fire came. The following account of the

fire and the funeral is from the Marshall News-Messenger of September 16, 1887:

C. H. Whitney made the coffin, conducted the funeral, and made the remarks the occasion demanded. The affair was peculiarly sad. The girl died September 28, 1871, and on the following day a terrible prairie fire raged, burning over the whole country. A few who could gather fought the flames until exhausted. Mr. Whitney was taken to his sod shanty more dead than alive, and the fire swept away everything he had. He had just got the frame of his new house erected and the lumber was on the ground for its completion. All this was destroyed, together with all his grain and hay, the fruits of his first year of pioneer life.

That morning he had begun to make a coffin for the body awaiting burial; at night he was so prostrated as to be unable to proceed with the work of the morning, and the night was passed by Mrs. Whitney in caring for her husband and with her own hands finishing the work upon the coffin. The funeral was held the following day, amid the calamities of the loss to settlers by the great fire and the grief at the loss of the first of the little band. To add to the gloom, the atmosphere was yet so dense with smoke from the fire of the previous day and the now distant burning of the prairie that respiration was difficult, and the somberness of the night overspread the country.

A large tract of country was burned over in August, 1873, and several people lost their homes and other property. This was the first experience with the dreaded racing flames for many of the residents of Lyon county, and a great many were badly frightened.

Another fire of great fierceness and covering considerable area swept the western part of Lyon county about the middle of September, 1877. It started near Sioux Falls and was driven by a strong southwest wind. It ran down both sides of the Redwood river as far as Marshall and was one of the most destructive fires in the county's history.

Illustrative of the velocity with which it traveled: Messrs. H. P. Sanden, E. K. Ronning, C. P. Myran and Christopher Johnson, of Shelburne township, had finished threshing and started for Marshall, each hauling a load of wheat to market with ox teams. When they started from home there was no sign of

fire, but they had proceeded only so far as the present site of Russell when the blazing fire was seen approaching, and within a short time the prairies were a blackened waste.

One life was lost in this conflagration. At the C. P. Myran home, near where the village of Florence is now, were Mrs. Myran and two children and Mrs. Henrick Jorgenson, wife of a newcomer who was building on his homestead near by. When the flames approached, the two women went out to the south to "back-fire" and protect the property. The flames came with such speed that the women were unable to accomplish their purpose but were forced to flee for protection. Mrs. Myran reached the dug-out and safety, but Mrs. Jorgenson was overcome at the straw stable and was burned to death.

The straw buildings, threshed grain, hay, chickens and everything except the dug-outs on the C. P. Myran and Christopher Johnson homesteads were destroyed, and those families were robbed of the fruits of their year's labor—the first year of their residence in the county that the grasshoppers had not taken the crop. E. K. Ronning and H. P. Sanden, their neighbors, generously shared their grain with the unfortunate families and assisted them in rebuilding.

The village of Marshall was in danger from a fire on October 3, 1879, and heroic efforts were necessary to save the town. Illustrative of the methods employed in overcoming the demons of the prairie is the following account of the checking of this fire, published in the Lyon County News of October 8, 1879:

Quite an excitement was created by the sudden appearance of a large fire last Friday afternoon in the vicinity of J. M. Lockey's brick kiln, south of town. It will be remembered that the wind blew violently at the time

from the south and very many during the day spoke of the difficulty with which a fire could be managed should it once get started. In fact, every one in town had his eyes and ears wide open for an emergency of this kind, and in less than ten minutes after "fire" was yelled, hundreds of men were on the spot, armed with brooms, wet rags, shovels, pitchforks, rakes, hoes and everything they could seize hold of and were welting the flames. One man had the tailboard of a lumber wagon, but each used his weapon with a vengeance and the flames were soon cut off. The first two or three, though, who reached the spot were the ones who did the most effective work. . . . Now the village is out of danger from fires from that quarter.

During the latter part of October, 1888, prairie fires were very destructive in several parts of the county and many grain stacks and buildings were burned. Near the newly established station of Russell, on October 31, occurred a very stubborn fire and a human life was sacrificed to its fury. A number of people were fighting the flames on the bluff near the home of Daniel Fellon, and among the number was Mrs. Fellon. The men rushed to head off the flames that were going around a back-fire, leaving Mrs. Fellon behind. The lady's clothing caught fire and she was so badly burned that she died the following day.

#### GAME IN EARLY DAYS.

In the days before white men came, Lyon county was the home of several species of big game, including bison, elk and deer, and many fur bearing animals. On hunting and trapping expeditions the aborigines visited the county from time immemorial, and later, when settlement had been extended to the frontier regions, white trappers were wont to visit the streams with their traps and were richly rewarded.

Small game was abundant—so abundant, in fact, that it is not safe to give a truthful account of its abundance at this late day. C. F. Case in the Lyon County Reporter of February 4, 1899,

told how easy it was to replenish the larder when Lyon county was young, as follows:

A man of resources had little trouble to live on the Minnesota frontier at that time. The air was full of meat. Ducks and geese were frequently so thick that even we could shoot toward heaven and bring down this manna. The first goose that fell a victim to our sporting habits met with a flat refusal from our better half to cook the bird, for she insisted it must be sick or we never could have shot it. This prejudice died out later when we came home from a hunt and reported that three of us had shot fourteen geese at one shot. That was good hunting, and we felt a very natural delicacy for many months against confessing that when the fourteen fell our gun didn't go off.

The bison was among the first of the big game to depart after the arrival of settlers. The very first settlers occasionally saw stray members of this noble animal of the prairies and many evidences of his former presence in the shape of wallows and his bleaching bones scattered over the prairie. A stray buffalo was killed by two Norwegian boys in 1869 at the point in Westerheim township where the two branches of Yellow Medicine river join. The boys were hunting chickens, and the monarch of the plains met his death with charges of bird shot. The elk also departed early, although a few were seen by the Lyon county pioneers. The last of that species of big game was killed on the shore of Lake Marshall in 1870 by Alex Demars, a half-breed.

Deer remained in the county for a longer period and had their habitat in the woods along the streams. After the October blizzard in 1880 three were shot in the Lynd woods, and at other times during that winter of deep snow several deer were seen in the county.

#### EARLY COURTS OF JUSTICE.

(BY W. M. TODD.)

The early history of Marshall presents nothing more amusing than the first judicial proceedings.

Before the village was organized a certain township justice of the peace issued a summons in a civil process. He took delight in telling of the coming suit and always added that he could not understand why they brought the case before him, for he had heard nothing about it and knew nothing of the particulars. He did not know that his professional ignorance constituted his sole qualification.

After the case had been called and the complaint filed, the attorney for the defendant made a motion to dismiss, on the ground that "the complaint did not state facts sufficient to constitute a cause of action." After a moment's silence the learned justice assumed an air of judicial dignity and said: "A motion has been made to dismiss; does anyone second the motion?"

During the years I wore the judicial ermine many amusing incidents happened, some of which will never be forgotten.

On a certain occasion I performed a marriage ceremony under quite extraordinary circumstances. One day in May I was cleaning up the room, which was used in turn for lumber office, court room, council meeting room, etc. The day was intensely warm and I had removed coat, vest and collar and rolled up my sleeves; my hands were dirty, my hair disheveled, and drops of perspiration were trickling over a dust-begrimed face.

While in this condition a Norwegian couple appeared upon the scene to be married. It was about eleven o'clock and I told them that I would go to dinner early, clean myself, and be ready for the ceremony about one o'clock. This would not answer at all. They wanted to be married then and there, without delay. I pleaded in vain for a



#### PLOWING IN LYON COUNTY

The Machine is Owned by Peter Hanson of Russell.



#### TRAPPERS AND THEIR CATCH

Furs Taken by Charles and Mynard Burt, Coon Creek Township, in Five Weeks of the 1910 Season. There are Eighty Mink, Thirty-four Skunk, Four Hundred Fifty Rats, One Fox and Twelve Weasels.



short postponement and finally told them that in any event I must go home and wash and put on some clean clothes. They would not agree even to that and demanded that the ceremony be performed at once.

I was hardly able to conceal my displeasure at their unreasonable haste and lack of consideration for my embarrassed appearance, and I jumped up before them and told them to stand up and take hold of hands. Then, turning to the woman, I said: "Do you like him?" She coyly answered "yes." Next addressing the man, I said: "Do you like her?" He blushing said "yes." "Then go to it." That was the only ceremony and it occupied less than half a minute. The whole party was actually dazed and somewhat dissatisfied over its brevity and lack of formality.

#### DERIVATION OF "BLIZZARD."

The word blizzard, synonymous with the terrible winter storm of the prairies, was coined during the early settlement of the Northwest. In the early eighties the newspapers of the country filled columns giving the "original" derivation of the word, which then came into general use and in time found its way into the dictionaries. There is evidence that the word was coined in Marshall during the memorable storm of January, 1873. Concerning this, the Lyon County News of March 2, 1883, said:

The word blizzard was first used in Marshall, Minnesota, by an American settler, now residing in Iowa. It was in the storm of 1873, at Charles H. Whitney's hotel, and the man was Deacon Seth Knowles, who was a settler of Lyon county near this village. The deacon was a fine German scholar, and while discussing the terrible storm raging without one speaker said no word could express its severity, whereupon the deacon said: "It's a *blizzard*!"

So the great storm of 1873 was locally known, and with recurring storms the term spread through the state. During late years it has been generally adopted for squalls in the eastern states, which as compared with a genuine

blizzard are no more than zephyrs. The deacon knew what he was talking about and adapted the term to the terrors of the storm. A German witnessing one of these overpowering storms would say:

"*Der Sturm kommt blitzartig*,"

which, translated into English, would be:

"The storm comes lightning-like."

The transition from *blitzartig* to blizzard is natural and easy, while no word could better describe the oncoming snow and wind storm, and certainly there is no English word to fill the bill. The newness of the term and its pronunciation led the deacon to step to the counter of the hotel and write the word for the benefit of his friends.

#### THE LONG WINTER.

A book could be filled with the adventures and unpleasant features of the long winter of deep snows, 1880-81. For weeks the people of Lyon county were isolated, without mail and scantily supplied with fuel, provisions and many other necessities of life. The inconveniences were borne good naturedly as a general thing, and the humor of the situation was often manifested.

During the last days of March, 1881, when not a train had been run for more than two months, an effort was made to open the road at Marshall, and an engine which had been "dead" there for many long weeks was fired up with wood that had been the coaling platform. C. C. Whitney, of the News, told of the effect on the people of the sound of the locomotive's whistle and bell, as follows:

Wednesday afternoon the good people of Marshall were amazed and somewhat alarmed at hearing loud, shrill and frightful shrieks, and only those knowing to the facts could account therefor. Children ran to their mothers, women were almost speechless, and the sterner sex trembled with fear, many calling to mind Mother Shipton's prophecy that in 1881 the world would come to an end. But there was no call for such consternation, in reality.

In other countries and even in some parts of America, it is said, they have what are called locomotives, a kind of huge machine, which is made to run with steam, and these so-called iron horses draw coaches through the country at a rapid rate of speed. To alarm people of their approach these locomotives have attached a large bell and whistle.

It was one of these strange machines, running about near the river and blowing its terrible whistle, which caused the alarm to our people. We understand these machines are quite harmless, unless a person gets in front of them, and that they run along very fast in good weather, but that they are afraid of snow and can only be used in portions of the country where no snow falls. It is hinted that some time next summer, the Lord willing, some of these locomotives will be used to draw coaches and freight through this section of country. But we haven't much faith in such notions and think the old-fashioned way of having horses to draw the passengers, freight and mail from Sleepy Eye far more reliable, take it all the year around.

#### A PIONEER MINISTER.

Rev. W. T. Ellis played an important part in the early affairs of Lyon county. He was one of the founders of Lynd and Camden, a pioneer minister, store-keeper and promoter, and a leader in early day affairs. In a way he was a character and many stories have been told of his doings. The following description of Rev. Ellis is from the pen of C. F. Case, written in 1898:

Probably this Rev. Ellis was for a time the most celebrated man in the county. We remember him as a preacher of some talent and a good deal of originality. Governed almost entirely by impulse, it was a wild guess what might be expected of him next. At a revival meeting he would make the pictures on the wall weep for the sins of the world, and as a Sunday School teacher he would fire the pupils with ambition to walk in the footsteps of Moses and the prophets, but he would also run horses on Sunday for the whisky, beat his best friend in a trade, and swear like a Spanish pirate when he got mad. Being overheard once by a lady damning his cattle away up in G, he apologized by saying that he had bought them from a very profane man and that he had to quote the language they were accustomed to before they thought his admonitions in earnest. Since leaving here he has been illustrated in the Police Gazette for trying to break up a seditious church meeting by pounding the congregation with the pulpit Bible.

In business Rev. Ellis was governed by the same impulsiveness. If dried apples were cheap in his opinion and for sale on time, he bought a ton of them and other goods with the same reckless abandon. It is said that one of his dried apple loads, topped out with half a ton of codfish, was caught in a heavy shower on its way from New Ulm and raised so high that he could only take the prairie road to Lynd and had to spread his load over forty acres to dry again in the sun. The addition to this story,

which we once made, that the Flandreau Indians smelled the drying codfish and, thinking it the camp of a Chippewa enemy, went on the warpath, we here admit was untrue. The odors did not reach farther than Lake Benton.

#### A RAILROAD STRIKE.

When the Dakota Central railroad was being constructed in the summer of 1879, the workmen engaged in a strike which created great excitement and necessitated a visit from the governor and the calling out of the militia. The wildest rumors were sent out concerning depredations committed by the strikers, but as a matter of fact very little damage was done.

On the morning of June 16, 1879, thirty-one shovelers working four miles west of Tracy struck and demanded increased wages. Their employer refused the demands and told the men to go to Tracy and get their pay. The workmen at the next camp to the west also struck when they heard of the action of the others, and a large number of the strikers started west to incite the other camps and make the strike general.

Nearly all the workmen joined the strikers and those that were inclined otherwise were forced to join the ranks. The several construction crews became a mob. The march to the west continued until nightfall and camp was pitched on the Redwood river. On the morning of the seventeenth the mob continued the march toward Lake Benton. All except the camp farthest west suspended work and the army of strikers began the march back to Tracy. Many were mounted, and when some of those forced into the strike attempted to escape they were run down and again made to join the ranks.

The foreman in charge of the construction work was making a tour of inspection near Lake Benton when the trouble occurred. He eluded the strikers

by taking a circuitous route and reached Tracy early on the morning of Tuesday, the seventeenth. He at once asked aid from the county authorities.

Sheriff Hunter was informed that the strikers were waging war on the settlers, contractors, boarding house keepers and others and that a general riot was feared. The peace officer at once swore in about twenty deputies, who, armed with rusty muskets, took the noon train for the seat of trouble. The sheriff sent out a mounted scouting party to reconnoitre and they reported an army of 200 strikers to be fifteen miles west of Tracy. It was feared the sheriff's company would not be strong enough to cope with the mob and a call was sent for the state militia.

About noon on Wednesday a part of the strikers arrived at Tracy. They bore aloft on a rude frame a sheet on which was inscribed: "Railroad Strikers. \$3.50 per day and \$1.50 per day." A council between the strikers and contractors was held, at which the latter agreed to have the money on the next train from Marshall with which to pay the men their wages. The train did not stop at Tracy but went through at full speed. This incensed the strikers and threats of violence were made.

The strike was brought to a sudden close. Within a half hour after the train from Marshall went through, a special train bearing the New Ulm militia company arrived in Tracy. On the train was also Superintendent Sanborn with money to pay the strikers. Only about thirty of them applied for their wages; the others returned to work and the strike was over. Governor John S. Pillsbury made a trip to Tracy early on the morning of Thursday to investigate conditions, but the men had returned to work and the governor remained only a couple of hours.

#### COUNTY IN STRAITENED CIRCUMSTANCES.

In the early days Lyon county was frequently "hard up" and not in position to meet its bills. Times were exceeding bad, there was little taxable property, and often the county authorities were obliged to take humiliating means to satisfy creditors.

On August 20, 1872, Sheriff James Cummins presented a bill for \$552.40 for expenses incident to the arrest and imprisonment of E. C. Langdon, John Terrill, Emerson Hull and Egbert Hull, charged with horse thievery. The bill was allowed, but the county was without funds to meet it. Proceedings of the County Board that day were in the following language:

Board authorized Mr. A. R. Cummins, county treasurer, to raise three hundred dollars to apply on above sheriff's bill; said money to be borrowed on six months' time at interest not to exceed twenty-five per cent per annum.

During the grasshopper days debts were contracted which caused much trouble and expense to county officials. Several judgments were secured and drastic steps had to be taken to keep the county solvent. The following resolution appears on the journal of the Board of County Commissioners for March 23, 1878:

Whereas one H. D. Witness holds county orders to a large amount and holds over us judgments and suits to our mortal terror and excessive fear, demanding money and costs and general distress to the good people of Lyon county, therefore we, the County Board of said county so distressed, do hereby resolve that in consideration that said H. D. Witness withhold such suits and judgments from further progress and does not start more suits to so distress and mortally worry said good people aforesaid, that on the first day of July next, we, the County Board, will issue bonds to the extent of the law, viz.: \$4900. Signed, O. C. Gregg, county auditor; H. T. Oakland, chairman County Board; D. F. Weymouth, county attorney.

#### SIGNS OF THE TIMES.

Indicative of the times, there are found in the files of the county papers

many interesting items. Under existing conditions the events recorded below could hardly happen. In many respects the people of Lyon county of thirty and forty years ago lived in a different world; not one of the little items quoted was considered out of the ordinary at the time, but they would be if published as news in the same papers today. "The world do move."

**Salary Increased.**—The postmaster of Marshall has had his salary increased from \$45 to \$200 a year, to date from January last.—*Prairie Schooner*, November 1, 1873.

**Marshall an Island.**—The high water of last week has disappeared and left the river within reasonable bounds. It brought out the fact that several residence lots within the town plat ought to be deeded with a boat to get on to and off from in high water. Either the business part of town is in the wrong place or a little work ought to be put in on the river bank above, in the shape of a levee, or still farther up, in the shape of a cut to turn high water off Lake Marshall way. The business part of town was mostly out of water but was on an island that cut the larger part of town off from connection with it.—*Prairie Schooner*, April 16, 1875.

**Gold Discovery.**—We don't wish to excite the country with statements that will not properly pan out on examination, but there is gold in Lyon county. Some years ago an old miner was struck by the peculiar bluffs around Camden, nine miles above Marshall, and in Mr. Rouse's company did some prospecting and found gold in small quantities. The search was abandoned, but within the past few days Mr. P. I. Pierce, who is an old gold miner, has been turning up the sand in that neighborhood and yesterday showed us some specimens which he found there of undoubted genuineness. He is sanguine that gold in paying quantities will be found. Nearly every pan shows color.—*Marshall Messenger*, May 11, 1877.

**The Town Well.**—"We never miss the water until the well runs dry." But we rise to a point of order on the internal improvement question. The well on the corner is the subject of this harangue, fellow citizens. It ought to be a well-spring of joy, for in it has been sunk the public wealth to the amount of \$150, more or less. We hope somebody has made something out of it, for the public has not, and in all the desirable qualifications of a well it is a lamentable failure. It is simply a hole in the ground, over which the council has spent much money and many hopes. If the structure only ran up instead of down it would do to leave as a monument of hope deferred, but as it does not the question still rages: "What shall we do to be saved."—*Marshall Messenger*, April 25, 1879.

**Better Railroad Facilities.**—One can now leave Marshall at half past twelve o'clock in the afternoon and be in Chicago at four o'clock the next afternoon, making a ride of twenty-seven and one-half hours. This is an improvement on the time card we once had, when it took from six at night until six in the morning to ride from here to New Ulm, and that on a freight train with an oak plank to sit on and a dirty old red lantern for an illuminator.—*Lyon County News*, June 4, 1879.

**No First Bounce Goes.**—The base ball regulations for 1879 are changed so that a foul ball must be caught on the fly to make the striker out. Also the ball must be caught on the fly on the third strike to insure a strike.—*Lyon County News*, June 4, 1879.

**Electric Lights a Success.**—Edison has finally made a success of his electric light. Now what?—*Lyon County News*, December 31, 1879.

**The First Telephone.**—Professor Gregg has a telephone in successful operation between his residence and the court house. It attracts a great deal of attention from the curious. Will Gregg manufactured the machine.—*Lyon County News*, October 21, 1881.

**An Automobile!**—The Olds automobile for D. H. Evans arrived on Monday and the great chauffeur has been the envy of all as he "autoed" about the city. The machine is a daisy and the first one to be owned by a Tracy citizen.—*Tracy Herald*, April, 1902.



CHARLES C. WHITNEY

Former Superintendent of State Printing and for Thirty-two  
Years Publisher of the Marshall News-Messenger.



## CHAPTER XX.

### BIOGRAPHICAL HISTORY.

**C**HARLES C. WHITNEY (1880),\* ex-president of the Minnesota Editors and Publishers Association, ex-superintendent of state printing for Minnesota, and for thirty-two years publisher of the Marshall News-Messenger, is a man who has taken a most active and important part in the affairs of his county and state. Perhaps no man in Lyon county is better known within the county and throughout the state than is Mr. Whitney. For nearly a third of a century has he labored in the promotion of every worthy undertaking that tended to the betterment of his city and county and he has wrought well. The life story of such a man is indeed entitled to a place in the History of Lyon County.

Charles Colby Whitney is a product of New England. He was born at Salmon Falls, New Hampshire, March 20, 1846, and resided in New England until he came to Lyon county at the age of thirty-four years. His father was overseer in the cotton mills at Salmon Falls and later held similar positions at Lawrence, Haydenville, and Waltham, Massachusetts. It was while our subject was quite young that the family moved to Lawrence, and it was there that his life-work began. After securing a public school education young Whitney entered the office of the Lawrence American, at the age of fifteen years, and served a most thorough mechanical apprenticeship. Ever since that date, fifty-one years ago, he has been engaged in the printing business. So expert did he become as a printer that he was made foreman of the job department when only seventeen years old.

Upon the outbreak of the Civil War Mr. Whitney was too young to enlist but when he reached the age of eighteen years he left the office and went to the front. He enlisted for three months as a private in Company I, Sixth Massachusetts Regiment, and when his term expired he joined Company D, First Battalion, Twenty-sixth New York Cavalry, in which he remained until the conclusion of the war.

The war over, Mr. Whitney returned to his work in the American office, where he remained until coming to Lyon county in 1880. During the last ten years of his service on that paper he was employed in the editorial department, first as a reporter, later as city editor, and during the latter part of his stay he was one of the proprietors of the paper upon which he had begun to work as a young boy. While thus engaged he was also for many years a special correspondent for the Boston Herald. His parents moved to Waltham soon after he began his apprenticeship, but with the persistence which has characterized his later years he remained at his post and secured a mechanical, business and editorial education. During his residence in Lawrence Mr. Whitney became actively interested in politics and public affairs and for two years served as a member of the City Council.

The most marked success of Mr. Whitney's career awaited his coming to Lyon county. The attraction of this region led him to leave Massachusetts in 1880 and locate in Marshall, where his home has ever since been. Upon his arrival he purchased the Lyon County News and in 1885 he

\*The date in parentheses following the name of each subject is the year of arrival to Lyon county.

bought the Marshall Messenger, consolidated the two, and has ever since continued the publication under the name of News-Messenger. Of his success as a publisher an article in a history issued by the Minnesota Editors and Publishers Association said:

"The first thing which attracted the attention of the newspaper fraternity to Mr. Whitney was the neat typographical appearance of his paper, the result of his thorough Massachusetts schooling. This at once led to the reading of its contents, and it was readily seen that a new editor had come to the state who was bound to make his mark. . . . Mr. Whitney's paper at once took front rank in the politics of Southwestern Minnesota, and as he became more widely known, its influence has been extended far beyond his local bailiwick, and it is one of the influential Republican papers of the state."

Soon after his arrival Mr. Whitney became an active member of the State Editors and Publishers Association and in 1895 he was elected its president. He still participates in the management of that organization and for sixteen years has been chairman of its executive committee. In 1894 he organized the Republican Press Association, was elected its first president, and for many years was represented on its executive committee. He is serving his twelfth year as a trustee of the Minnesota State Soldiers' Home.

In November, 1895, Mr. Whitney was tendered and accepted the office of superintendent of state printing, his selection being made by the board of printing commissioners composed of the secretary of state, state treasurer and state auditor. For ten years he held the office and his administration was highly successful.

Locally Mr. Whitney has also served in official capacities and his work as a member of the Board of Education was exceptionally beneficial. He was secretary of the board twelve years and was one of its most valued members. In social life he has also been active, belonging to the Grand Army of the Republic, Masonic, Odd Fellows, Knights of Pythias and Royal Arcanum orders.

Charles C. Whitney was married in Lawrence, Massachusetts, in 1866 to Mattie M. Hogle, and there his eldest son, Frank C.

Whitney, was born. Mrs. Whitney died in 1877, and in 1879 Mr. Whitney was married to his present wife, Nellie A. Johnson, of Bethel, Maine. To this union have been born the following named children who are living: Joseph W., Minne Sota (Mrs. Fred A. Hills), Dick and Jack.

CHARLES E. GOODELL (1866), deceased, was the first permanent settler of Lyon county and for over twenty years he was prominent in the affairs of Lyons and Lynd townships.

He was born in Buffalo, New York, August 4, 1843. When a boy he moved to Illinois and was living in that state when the Civil War began. He enlisted in Company D, Seventy-fifth Illinois Infantry, August 14, 1862, and served nearly three years, being discharged July 1, 1865.

In the spring of 1866 Charles Goodell came to Lyon county with a cousin, Will Stone, to trap and hunt. He did not make permanent settlement at that time, but the following spring he came again and took a claim on section 5, Lyons township, where the Lynd trading post had been established years before. He resided in Lyon county until 1888, when he moved to Tennessee and located in a community settled by Lyon county people. He died there June 10, 1908. Mr. Goodell was a prominent Mason and a member of Delta Lodge of Marshall. He was also one of the early members of D. F. Markham Post, G. A. R., having been admitted to membership September 24, 1881.

Mr. Goodell's wife died in 1904. At the time of his death he had four sons living, as follows: George H., of Illinois; Ernest, of Sioux City, Iowa; Frank, of Tennessee; and Roy, who lived with his father.

OREN C. GREGG (1870) is one of Lyon county's earliest settlers and is today one of its most widely known citizens. His work as superintendent of State Farm Institutes took him all over the state and gave him a wide acquaintance, and for the last few years his work under the direction of the agricultural colleges in North Dakota, Montana, Idaho, Utah and Colorado has made his name well known, especially in the farming communities of those states. The farm

in Lynd and Island Lake townships which Mr. Gregg owned and operated thirty-nine years was sold a few years ago when our subject took up his work in the West, but Mr. Gregg reserved a comfortable cottage on the place for the use of himself and wife, and they still make their home on the old farm.

The date of Mr. Gregg's birth was November 2, 1845, and his birthplace is Enosburg, Vermont. He is the son of Oren and Clarinda (Comstock) Gregg. The mother died when her son was six years of age and is buried in Vermont, her husband's native state. She was a native of New York State. Oren Gregg, Sr., was a clergyman, and for forty years he was a member of the Troy Conference of Vermont and New York. At the close of his active work in the pulpit he made his home for a few years with his son Oren in Lyon county, and later he went to California. He lived there with his son, Leslie A. Gregg, and died at the age of eighty-two years.

The subject of this sketch received his early education in Fort Edward Institute and Plattsburg Academy in the state of New York. After finishing school he was employed in the enrollment office of the provost marshal, in the sixteenth district, New York, located at Plattsburg, a position he resigned at the close of the Civil War. Moving to Mower county, Minnesota, in 1865, he taught school and also filled the pulpits of the churches at Chatfield, High Forest and Eyota. Mr. Gregg came to Lyon county early in 1870, when the country was new and unsettled. At that time no clergyman had ventured into the field, excepting traveling missionaries. The community, however, was earnestly desirous of having church services, and Mr. Gregg, who was naturally a fluent speaker and well trained in the scripture on account of his environment as a boy, modestly offered his help and ably conducted worship in the villages several years, never asking any remuneration for his work.

The year 1870 marked Mr. Gregg's arrival to Lyon county, and he located on the northwest quarter of section 30, Lynd township, where he has since made his home and to which he has added adjoining land in Lynd and Island Lake townships, making a total acreage of about 400 acres. The place for years has been known as the Coteau Farm

and the State Farm. Mr. Gregg gave it the first name on account of the little range of hills which extends from southwestern Minnesota west into South Dakota.

Mr. Gregg was ever a farmer of advanced ideas. He was one of the first winter dairy men in the state, in the days before the cream separator and the silo. Early in his farm experience he began to study the laws which govern the selection of dairy stock and their improvement. It was his original investigation in this line which caused him to be called to aid in college extension work in nearly one-half the states of the union. Mr. Gregg also co-operated with H. W. Campbell in promoting dry farming ideas. To Mr. Campbell may be given the credit of the inception of the idea, but to Mr. Gregg must be given praise for taking hold of the scheme with all his enthusiasm, furnishing the implements and actually working out a good part of the system on his Lyon county farm.

Our subject was becoming well known throughout the state on account of his practical experimenting and advanced theories in farming. In 1893 the State Experimental Station established a branch on Mr. Gregg's farm. They occupied at will the 400 acres and furnished a few scientific instruments, but our subject freely offered the use of his stock, machinery and buildings for the carrying on of the work, met all expenses excepting the hire and board of the experimenting force, and ably assisted the representatives of the state farm school who actively took charge of the experimental work.

It was about this time that Gov. Pillsbury created the state farmers institutes. For several months in every year several corps of experts in all branches of farming were sent out over the state, holding a several days' session in the important towns and talking advance methods to the farmers. The system met the success it deserved, and the farmers were enthusiastic recipients of the idea. To Mr. Gregg was given the position of superintendent of the institutes by Gov. Pillsbury, and that office he held twenty-two years. This work and the compiling of the Farmers Annual, a publication in connection with the institute work, occupied our subject's time, and most of the active farm management was in the hands of a

tenant during the years of Mr. Gregg's incumbency of his office.

During Mr. Gregg's early residence in the county he was county auditor twelve years, and was during that time also on the Marshall Village Council and the Board of Education.

Oren C. Gregg was married in Plattsburg, New York, May 25, 1868, to Charlotte I. Carter. She was born December 19, 1840, and is the daughter of Samuel Carter, an old and highly respected citizen of Plattsburg.

Our subject is associate editor of the Northwestern Agriculturist. He is a stockholder in the Dakota Telephone Company. He and his wife have for many years been prominent members of the Methodist church. Mr. Gregg's fraternal affiliations are with the I. O. O. F. lodge.

MAJOR JOHN WINSLOW BLAKE (1872), deceased. One of the leading men of Marshall and Lyon county in the early days was Major John W. Blake, who was one of the founders of Marshall and a man who played a most important part in the business, political and social life of the community in pioneer days.

John Blake was born at Dover, Maine, August 29, 1839. He moved to Wisconsin in 1840 and to Lyon county, Minnesota, in 1872. He was educated in Milton Academy and in the University of Wisconsin and by profession was a civil engineer. In 1860 he established and published the Jefferson County Republican, at Jefferson, Wisconsin, and was conducting that journal when the war began.

Our subject enlisted for three months' service as a private soldier and afterwards re-enlisted for three years in Company E, Fourth Wisconsin Infantry. In October, 1862, he was made first lieutenant of H Company, Twenty-ninth Wisconsin Infantry, and was regimental adjutant from December, 1862, to June, 1864. Then he was commissioned captain of H Company and detailed on the staff of General Cameron, acting as A. A. Q. M. general of the Thirteenth Army Corps and later as A. A. C. S. of La Fourche district, Department of the Gulf. In October, 1864, he became major of the Forty-second Wisconsin Infantry. The next month he was made provost marshal on the

staff of General John Cook, in which position he was serving at the close of the war.

The first active service of the young soldier was in 1861 in Maryland under Generals Butler, Dix, Wool and Lockwood. He went to the Gulf Department with General Butler and participated in the capture of Fort Phillips, Jackson and New Orleans and the engagements at Red Church, Grand Gulf and the first attack on Vicksburg under General Williams. He took part in the battle of Baton Rouge and was later with General McClernand in the expedition up White river and the capture of Arkansas Post. He was in the Vicksburg campaign under General Grant, took part in the battles of Fort Gibson, Fourteen-Mile Creek, Edward's Station, Raymond, the siege of Vicksburg, and was at the capture of Jackson under General Sherman. He was again in the Gulf Department under General Banks and participated in the battles of Carrion Crow Bayou, Opolusas, Sabine Cross Roads, Mansfield, Marksville Plains and the capture of Fort Esperanza.

After the war Major Blake returned to Jefferson, Wisconsin, and engaged in the lumber business in company with W. G. Ward. Later they built mills and conducted an extensive business at Wolf River, Wisconsin. In 1867 Major Blake built a foundry and a machine and agricultural implement manufactory at Jefferson and conducted the same successfully for some years. In 1872 he engaged in the employ of the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad Company as a civil engineer and assisted in the location of and construction of the Winona & St. Peter railroad from New Ulm to Kampeska, and that year paid his first visit to Lyon county.

During the summer the railroad was built Major Blake bought the land upon which the city of Marshall now stands and in company with others platted a town and founded Marshall. His home continued in the new village until January, 1891, when he located at Dalton, Georgia. He died at that place May 15, 1903, and was buried in the Marshall cemetery.

Major Blake was a guiding spirit in the affairs of the community for many years. He held the office of county surveyor many terms and represented his district in both houses of the Minnesota Legislature.

RUFUS H. PRICE (1871). A very few men have had a longer continuous residence in Lyon county than has the gentleman whose name heads this review. He came to Minnesota in Territorial days and he came to Lyon county when the prairie was broken only occasionally by the claim shacks of homesteaders. For forty-one years he has been a resident of Lucas township. He was the third settler to locate in that township and his house was the first erected there. He is deservedly given a place in this History of Lyon County.

In Will county, Illinois, on February 3, 1846, Rufus H. Price was born. His father, Charles Price, was an Englishman by birth who located in Illinois in 1838. He was killed in Indiana in 1854. The mother of our subject, Abigail (Fuller) Price, was born in Ohio. She came with her son to Lyon county in 1871 and resided with him until her death in 1884.

Rufus Price left his native state and came to Minnesota when it was yet a territory, in 1857. He located near Rochester and resided there the next fourteen years of his life, purchasing land and engaging in farming after growing up. When he reached the age of eighteen years, on February 18, 1864, Mr. Price enlisted at Rochester in Company C, Ninth Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, and spent the next seventeen months in the service of his country, having been mustered out at St. Paul July 18, 1865. He is a member of the Grand Army of the Republic.

After the war Mr. Price continued his residence in Eastern Minnesota until 1871. In June of that year he came to Lyon county and filed a homestead claim to the southwest quarter of section 2, of what is now Lucas township. His nearest trading point at the time he located on the claim was Yellow Medicine, on the Minnesota river, which consisted of a store, postoffice and blacksmith shop. The lumber for his house was hauled from Willmar. In that pioneer home was taught the first school in the township, conducted for three months by Miss Ella Williams. Mr. Price encountered many hardships in the early days, but he passed successfully through the period of travail and in time came upon prosperous times. He now has one of the finest farm homes in the county and is the owner of 320 acres of excellent land on sections 2 and 3.

Mr. Price took a leading part in affairs in the early days. He was one of those who brought about the organization of Lucas township in 1873 and he was appointed township clerk by the Board of County Commissioners at the time of organization. He held the office several years, was assessor four years, and has been a member of the town board. He assisted in the organization of school district No. 19 and has held the office of treasurer of that district. He is a member and one of the trustees of the Presbyterian church of Cottonwood.

In local business matters Mr. Price has also taken a part. He owns a controlling interest in and is vice president of the Home Telephone Company of Cottonwood. He is a stockholder of the Lyon County National Bank of Marshall and of the First National Bank of Cottonwood.

Mr. Price was married in Lucas township January 4, 1890, to Helen Elmer. She was born in Gothland, Sweden, July 18, 1862, a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Elmer, who came to Lyon county in 1888. Mrs. Price's mother died in December, 1910; her father lives in Northern Minnesota. Mr. and Mrs. Price have seven children: Logan, of Graceville, Montana; Marvin, of Alberta, Canada; Fern, Willard, Hazel, Porter and Ray, who live at home.

LEVORIT AVERY (1868), of Lake Marshall township, is a native of the Gopher State, having been born in Rice county, Minnesota, November 9, 1858. When ten years of age, he accompanied his parents to Lyon county and his father homesteaded land in Custer township. Our subject received his early education and grew to manhood while residing at home, living on the home place until twenty-four years of age.

At the latter age he started working out on farms and in 1884 he rented his father's farm and conducted it one year. He then returned to Waseca county, Minnesota, where he rented land three years, after which he returned to Lyon county and has resided here since, with the exception of eighteen months spent in Colorado. In 1908 he rented the northwest quarter of section 21, Lake Marshall township, where he now resides.

The parents of our subject are John and

Lydia (Ketchum) Avery, both natives of Ohio.

Mr. Avery was married at Waseca, Minnesota, February 14, 1883, to Minnie Norcutt, a native of Minnesota. She was born June 22, 1862, and is a daughter of Norman and Sarah (McKinley) Norcutt, the former a native of Vermont and the latter of New York. Mr. and Mrs. Avery are the parents of the following children: Clyde, born May 17, 1884; Guy, born August 12, 1886; Percy, born December 25, 1888; Daisy M., born March 21, 1891; Denzil, born December 9, 1893; Edith Blanche, born April 30, 1896; John, born August 8, 1898; Minnie P., born January 18, 1901; Robert, born April 11, 1904.

JAMES MITCHELL (1869), ex-county commissioner of Lyon county and one of the earliest settlers, owns 280 acres of land and operates one of the finest improved farms in Amiret township. He has been a continuous resident of Amiret township forty-three years. Mr. Mitchell served twelve years as county commissioner when there were but three commissioners in what is now Lyon and Lincoln counties and when the county seat was at Lynd. It was also during his term of service as commissioner that the various townships of Lyon county were created and organized.

Our subject was born in Jefferson county, Wisconsin, September 16, 1848. His parents were James and Margaret (Barclay) Mitchell, now deceased. His mother died when James was a child and his father was married a second time to Martha Lane, a native of Maine. James Mitchell, Sr., was born in Scotland, came to America in 1838, and settled in Wisconsin in 1842, where he made his home until 1866. That year he moved to Plainview, Minnesota, and farmed in the vicinity three years. In the spring of 1869 he and his son, the subject of this biography, came to Lyon county and each took a quarter section of land on section 30, Amiret township, as homesteads. The father resided on his Amiret farm until his death on September 14, 1901, at the age of eighty-one years.

James Mitchell, Jr., was reared in Wisconsin and attended school until fourteen years of age. He then worked at farm labor one

year, after which he moved to Plainview, Minnesota, with his parents, and worked there two years. After the family moved to Lyon county James made his home with his parents until he married in 1884, after which he moved to his present place, the south-east quarter of section 5, Amiret township.

James Mitchell's marriage to Trena Rude occurred in Amiret township May 31, 1884. His wife is a native of Butler county, Iowa, and is a daughter of Michael and Olena Rude. The family were pioneer settlers of Brown county, Minnesota, locating there in 1869 and making it their home until their deaths. Mrs. Mitchell was born April 9, 1858. She and her husband are the parents of three children, as follows: Margaret (Mrs. Neil Currie), of Pittsfield, Massachusetts; Jeanette, a school teacher of Austin, Minnesota; and Jay (deceased).

Mr. Mitchell was for a number of years a member of the Amiret Township Board of Supervisors and was chairman of the township's first board. He was one of the organizers of school district No. 64 and has served continuously as clerk of the board since its organization. Our subject is a member of the Masonic lodge.

REES PRICE (1871), one of the earliest settlers of Monroe township, was born in Wales May 31, 1847. His parents were David and Mary (Rees) Price, both natives of Wales. The family came to the United States in 1866, when Rees was nineteen years old. The boy made his home for a few months with relatives in Goodhue county, Minnesota, and then journeyed to Rock Island, Illinois, where he worked in the coal mines until 1868. That year he was married to Ruth Thomas, a Milwaukee girl and a sister of Benjamin, James and Joseph Thomas, all of whom became early Lyon county settlers.

After his marriage in February, 1868, Mr. Price and his wife farmed in Blue Earth county, Minnesota, renting for a couple of years. In 1870 Mr. Price and others came to Lyon county to look over the country. They homesteaded in 1871 and Mr. Price moved his family to their new home on the northwest quarter of section 18, Monroe township, in 1872. The family lived on the farm for the next forty years.

It was frontier life for those early comers to Lyon county. Mr. Price hauled logs from the Cottonwood river with which to build his first dwelling. The old cabin, a 14x16 feet log hut, still stands on the place and is the oldest house standing in Monroe township. The other residents of the township at that time were Ed. Healy, David Stafford and George White, a brother-in-law of Mr. Price and now a resident of California. These four broke the first ground in the precinct with oxen. Until the railroad came in 1872 all trading was done at New Ulm.

During the years when the grasshopper scourge was in Southwestern Minnesota, Rees Price and others worked at farm labor in the eastern part of the state and succeeded in keeping themselves and their families from want. The winter of 1880 and 1881 brought more hardships. But the early settlers were of hardy stock and had faith in the country, which led them to endure the discomforts of the early days. The settlement grew and Mr. Price was one of those who helped organize the township of Monroe. He was the first justice of the peace and was on the town and school boards for several years, besides holding various other offices from time to time. The Price family lived in the original log cabin for twenty-eight years, when they built their present comfortable dwelling. The fine groves on the Price farm were set out from slips brought years ago from the Cottonwood river by Mr. Price.

Seven children have been born to Rees and Ruth Price, as follows: Elenor (Mrs. Hugh Jones), Mary (Mrs. Bert Wilford), Mabel (Mrs. Philip Hughes), Joseph, William, Winifred, who is at home with her parents, and Diana (Mrs. Ruben Harris), of Kernan, California. Mr. and Mrs. Price have for years been active members of the Congregational church.

**CHARLES H. WHITNEY (1869).** A man who occupied a most important place in the early history of Lyon county is Charles H. Whitney, now a resident of Cookeville, Tennessee. More than any other man was he responsible for the advertising of this frontier region in the seventies and the immigration that settled upon its broad

prairies. He is an optimist, and many a resident of Lyon county of this day owes his presence to the wonderful word-pictures painted by Mr. Whitney. With several others he was the founder of Marshall and in most every important event of the early times he figured. He has a fund of pioneer reminiscences and the author of this volume is indebted to him for many of the items contained herein.

Charles H. Whitney was born at Bridgton, Cumberland county, Maine, January 16, 1838. His father, George W. Whitney, was a Free Will Baptist minister and during the boyhood days of our subject the family resided in several different places where Rev. Whitney served his church as pastor. Charles lived in his native town until four years old, in Gray, Maine, three years, in Bethel, Maine, two or three years, and then in Rochester, New Hampshire.

While residing at Rochester, when eleven years of age, Charles H. Whitney started to earn his own living. His first employment was in a woolen mill, where he worked fourteen months. He then went to Salmon Falls, New Hampshire, and was employed in a cotton factory two years, beginning work in the weaving room, but later becoming office boy. He next located in East Abington (now Brockton), Massachusetts, and for several years was employed in a shoe factory which later became the W. L. Douglas factory. He became foreman of the stitching room when sixteen years of age and continued his work in the factory until he was eighteen and one-half years old.

During this time, by strict economy, young Whitney had saved money, which he expended in completing his education. He took a course in the North Parsonsfield, Maine, Academy, a Free Will Baptist school, and was graduated in December, 1856. He decided to locate in the West, and to earn money to pay his transportation he secured a position as clerk in a store.

On March 25, 1857, Charles H. Whitney arrived in Waupun, Wisconsin, where his brother, J. W. Whitney, a building contractor, resided. Our subject took work with his brother and learned the business in all its branches, which was of great help to him later in his new home on the prairies of Lyon county. He lived in Waupun six years.

During his residence there, on October 28, 1860, Mr. Whitney was united in marriage to Mary A. Wirt, a daughter of Elder Noah Wirt, of the Christian church, and Fannie (Mapes) Wirt. Mrs. Whitney was born at Willoughby, Ohio, July 22, 1843, and died at Cookeville, Tennessee, February 11, 1911. As a result of this union five children were born, as follows: George C., born at Wau-pun July 25, 1861, died November 1, 1862; Zula M., born at Oronoco, Minnesota, December 27, 1866, married John H. Schneider at Marshall June 16, 1886; Mille A., born at Oronoco May 7, 1888, married Fred H. White, of Marshall, Minnesota, at Cookeville, Tennessee, December 31, 1888; Fannie W., the first white child born in Marshall, born November 24, 1870, married James T. Snodgrass at McMinnville, Tennessee, September 16, 1891; Gertrude, a musician and artist of considerable note, born at Marshall April 21, 1875.

In April, 1863, Mr. Whitney became a resident of Minnesota, locating at Oronoco, Olmsted county. He resided there six years, during five of which he served as town clerk. During the war he had entire charge at Oronoco of filling the quota of troops. After the war he engaged in contracting and building, operated a furniture manufactory, and bought a farm.

In May, 1869, Mr. Whitney left with a party of ten men, in covered wagons, on a prospecting trip to find a suitable location in Western Minnesota for new homes. They traveled three weeks, visited St. Cloud, Benson and Hutchinson, but not liking the country about any of those towns they turned southward and passed through St. Peter. There the party met "Uncle Abner Tibbetts, register of the United States Land Office, who advised them to visit that part of Redwood county which is now Lyon county. They did so, making the trip by way of Redwood Falls, and arrived at the little settlement of Lynd on June 9, 1869. The operations of this party upon their arrival in Lyon county have been told in detail in the historical part of this volume, so it will not be necessary to repeat here. Suffice it to say that all members of the party were delighted with the country and all located, Mr. Whitney selecting as his claim the southeast quarter of section 4, Lake Marshall township, upon which was

later laid out a part of the village of Marshall.

After selecting his land Mr. Whitney broke a little land and on June 15, with the rest of the party, set out on the return home. At St. Peter they made filings on their claims. Mr. Whitney spent the next winter in his old Wisconsin home and interested several others in the new country, who accompanied him on the return in 1870. He arrived in Lyon county again on June 1, 1870, and erected a sod shanty on his claim, the first dwelling put up on section 4, of the Marshall site. It was located about twenty rods east of the Third Street bridge on the quarter section line. In the fall our subject secured the establishment of the Marshall postoffice and he became the first postmaster.

Mr. Whitney engaged in farming and booming the country. He located four-fifths of all the settlers who arrived prior to 1875. In the summer of 1872, in partnership with others, he platted the village of Marshall and it was largely through his influence that the Marshall station of the new Winona & St. Peter was located where it is, in preference to a point at the crossing of Three-Mile creek. In the fall of 1872, before the railroad had reached the new station, Mr. Whitney erected a hotel building, one of the first buildings in the town, hauling the lumber from the end of the completed track. At the first meal in the hostelry 250 people were fed. The location of the pioneer hotel building was on the site of the present Atlantic Hotel. Mr. Whitney erected the first brick kiln in Marshall and was prominent in many of the pioneer business enterprises.

He engaged extensively in land selling from the time of his arrival, and in 1876 he became the field agent and general outside representative for the railroad company, being thus employed ten years. In 1877 he established the Homeseekers Guide to the West, a monthly emigration paper of 5000 circulation.

Mr. Whitney originated the scheme of exhibiting the products of Lyon county and of the lands embraced within the railroad's land grant at the state fairs. The first exhibit was made in 1876, and first premiums were secured on all exhibits. Following is a list of premiums awarded Lyon county at early

day Minnesota state fairs for largest and best displays of grains and vegetables: 1879, first for grains and second for vegetables; 1880, first for both exhibits; 1881, first for grains and second for vegetables and a silver medal for five best varieties of spring wheat; 1882, first for each exhibit and silver medal for spring wheat exhibit. On March 8, 1881, the county was awarded first premium by the Minnesota State Butter and Cheese Association for the best fifty pounds of dairy butter, and in 1882 at the Wisconsin state fair Lyon county was awarded a diploma and given special mention for the largest, best and most artistically displayed exhibit of grains, vegetables, fruits, grasses, woods and soils made by one exhibitor.

In 1886 Mr. Whitney secured for the railroad company the right-of-way for the Willmar & Sioux Falls Railroad Company from Marshall to the north line of the county. On May 1, 1886, Mr. Whitney went to St. Paul to become circulation manager of *The Farmer*, an agricultural paper. In six months he raised the circulation of the paper to 30,000. After one year at that work his health failed, and in September, 1887, Mr. Whitney moved South, becoming a resident of Cookeville, Tennessee, where he has ever since resided.

During his long residence in Lyon county Mr. Whitney held a number of offices of trust. Besides being Marshall's first postmaster, he served for a time as judge of probate and was deputy county treasurer two terms, serving under Jacob Rouse and James Williams. He was justice of the peace of Lake Marshall township and held other township offices and was one of the first to hold the office of Marshall village recorder. From the time of the organization of the Marshall school district until it became an independent district he was chairman of the Board of Education.

JACOB ROUSE (1870). Only a few of those who took part in the early history making of Lyon county are still living in the county. However, one of those who took part in the early events and who came before the county was organized is still here, with a continuous residence of forty-two years to his credit. He is Jacob Rouse, a former county treasurer, who now lives in the Camden valley of Lynd township.

Jacob Rouse was born in Louisa county, Iowa, October 18, 1844. His father, Ebenezer Rouse, was born in Canada, of German descent. His mother, Mary (Harlan) Rouse, was born in Kentucky. The parents located in Iowa in 1840 and shortly after the birth of their son they moved to Illinois, near Galena, where they engaged in farming. There the father contracted yellow fever and died in 1850.

After the death of the head of the family Mrs. Rouse and her children, two sons and two daughters, moved to Lafayette county, Wisconsin, and near Elk Grove she bought five acres of land. Later the family moved to New Diggings of the same county. At the age of fifteen years young Rouse left home and went to Jones county, Iowa, where he resided two years, working on a farm in the summer and attending school during the winter. He then spent a short time attending school and working out at East Galena, Illinois, and worked in a hotel at Eau Claire, Wisconsin, six months.

Returning to Galena, Illinois, in the spring of 1864, Mr. Rouse enlisted in Company C, One Hundred Fortieth Illinois Volunteer Infantry. He was discharged seven months later and the following February enlisted in Company E, One Hundred Fifty-third Illinois Infantry, served six months, and was mustered out in September, 1865. After the war he returned to New Diggings, Wisconsin, and during the next few years engaged in farming and mining.

In 1870 Mr. Rouse came to Lyon county and filed a homestead claim to the northwest quarter of section 22, Lynd township, being one of the first to file in that neighborhood, and he proved up on the claim. In the fall of 1870 Mr. Rouse, in partnership with James Cummins and John Cook, erected a sawmill on the Redwood, where was later founded the village of Camden. He was in charge of the sawmill four years, and then it was remodeled into a flouring mill by Smith, Ellis & Rouse. The village of Camden was founded and soon boasted two stores, a blacksmith shop, harness shop, postoffice and mill, becoming one of the principal towns of the county.

One year after the flouring mill was started Mr. Rouse disposed of his interests, but for eighteen years he was employed by the firm that operated the mill. Since that

time he has devoted most of his time to farming, although he was manager of an elevator at Lynd two years and at Russell one year. He raises stock and makes a specialty of Duroc-Jersey hogs.

Mr. Rouse took an active part in political affairs in the early days and served as deputy county treasurer under A. R. Cummins, the first treasurer. Later he served a term as county treasurer. He was chairman of the Lynd Township Board of Supervisors one year and has an unbeatable record as a school officer, having been clerk of his district since it was organized in 1871. Mr. Rouse is a member of the Grand Army and the Masonic lodge.

In Lafayette county, Wisconsin, on May 5, 1868, Mr. Rouse was united in marriage to Elizabeth J. Day. She was born in the county in which she was married December 2, 1849, a daughter of Joseph H. and Martha M. (Dickey) Day. Both parents were born in Pennsylvania. The father died in Wisconsin in 1886 and thereafter Mrs. Day made her home with her daughter, Mrs. Rouse, until her death in 1900. Mr. and Mrs. Rouse have five children: Mary Etta, Joseph C., Ira E., Maud and Myrtle F.

OLE H. HATLESTAD (1874) is a prominent farmer of Lucas township and a most enthusiastic believer in the advantages of living in Lyon county. Mr. Hatlestad is well known throughout the county at large and has a host of friends in every community. For the last twelve years he has served continuously as a member of the Board of County Commissioners from district No. 1, and previous to that he had already served in the same capacity for four years. Mr. Hatlestad, besides farming 400 acres of land, owns seven lots and a fine residence in Cottonwood and is interested in other enterprises, being a stockholder of the Farmers Elevator Company of Cottonwood, of which he was for several years president.

Our subject was born March 4, 1853, in Song, Norway, and is a son of Hans O. and Martha (Anderson) Hatlestad, both of whom are now deceased. The parents came to America in 1854 and first located in Columbia county, Wisconsin, where they resided ten years. Their next home was in Winona county, where they lived until their

deaths. Ole Hatlestad was the oldest of the children and he received his education in the common schools of Winona county, attending until he had reached the age of nineteen years. Coming then to Lyon county, he engaged in the mercantile business with Andrew Ostlund one year and then went into the farm machinery business in Marshall, an enterprise which held his attention for the next five years. In 1879 Mr. Hatlestad commenced to acquire land and now owns a large acreage. He purchased a tree claim on the southwest quarter of section 18, Lucas, from Ole Dahl, which he still owns and operates. Subsequently he bought 200 acres on section 19 and later another forty. Mr. Hatlestad manages his farms and has made his home in Cottonwood since 1901.

Mr. Hatlestad has been affiliated with the Silo Norwegian Lutheran Church since its organization in 1880 and was formerly one of its trustees. He was a director of school district No. 15 three years and has held the office of assessor three terms. For a number of years he was chairman of the Township Board of Supervisors.

The subject of this sketch was married December 19, 1876, to Carrie Anderson, at Porter, Minnesota. His wife was a native of Norway. To this union were born: Andrew, on June 19, 1878; Martha, deceased, on January 29, 1880; Bertha, on January 25, 1882; Cora, on August 22, 1885; Clarence, on April 5, 1887; Harris, on May 10, 1889; Clara, on September 13, 1891; William, on February 16, 1894; and Oliver, on December 16, 1895. Mrs. Hatlestad died March 20, 1897.

Mr. Hatlestad married a second time in July, 1901, wedding Mrs. Dena Foss, a native of Wisconsin. To this union has been born one child, Aldrie, born March 3, 1904.

The subject of this sketch has several brothers and sisters living. Annie (Mrs. Elling Fenney) resides in Minneapolis. Christ is a resident of Otter Tail county. Gertrude (Mrs. C. Martinson) lives in Madison, Minnesota. Christie (Mrs. Andrew Ness) resides in Fillmore county. Martin is a resident of Lyon county.

KNUD A. BROUGHTON (1872). Forty years ago a few Norwegian families came to

Lyon county and settled in the northern townships, and with the vanguard of these was the family of Knud A. Broughton, who took a claim in Westerheim township and who has ever since had his home there. In the early days many hardships were encountered and inconveniences endured. Mr. Broughton hauled his flour from New London, did most of his trading at Redwood Falls, and remembers the time when Marshall consisted of one store and a sod shanty.

Mr. Broughton took as a homestead claim the southwest quarter of section 12, Westerheim, and another quarter section as a tree claim. Later he added to his holdings by purchase from the railroad company until he was the owner of 960 acres of land in Westerheim and Vallers townships. He has sold most of his farm lands to his children, but he is still the owner of 360 acres.

The gentleman whose name heads this review was born in Norway November 27, 1845. His father, Andrew K. Broughton, died in Norway in 1864, and his mother, Annie (Olson) Broughton, died there in 1910. Knud secured a high school education in his native land, attending to his studies until twenty years of age, and later had the management of his father's farm. He then came to America, arriving June 5, 1868. He located in Dane county, Wisconsin, and for the next four years worked at farm labor for an uncle. He came to Lyon county in the spring of 1872, took his claim, and has ever since been a citizen of Westerheim township. He lived on the homestead until 1899 and then moved to his present farm on section 11.

Mr. Broughton was a member of the first Board of Supervisors of Westerheim township and he has been assessor, road overseer, and a director of school district No. 3. He has been prominent in church work, holding membership in St. Lucas United Norwegian Lutheran Church of Normania township, Yellow Medicine county. It was largely through his efforts that that church was organized, and his name was the first one attached to the papers that led to its being founded. For several years he was a church trustee and he was church representative a number of terms.

In Norway, on April 13, 1868, Knud A. Broughton was married to Martha Anderson,

who was born September 3, 1840. As a result of this union the following children have been born: Andrew, George, Anton and Annie (Mrs. O. J. Stensrud), all of Westerheim township, and Gertie (Mrs. Sever Erickson), of Vallers township.

LUCIUS E. TOWN (1871), a farmer of Rock Lake township, was born in Steele county, Minnesota, March 4, 1870, and is a son of Lucius and Mary (Clark) Town, pioneer resident of Lyon county. Lucius Town, Sr., in company with his three brothers, Julius, Ralph and Alvah S., came to this county in 1871, and each brother took a quarter section on 22, Rock Lake, as a homestead.

Lucius Town, Jr., accompanied his parents to Lyon county, where his boyhood days were spent. His early education was acquired in the country schools of the township and in Balaton. At the age of fifteen years he attended school for a time near Owatonna and later took a course in the Wilder Business College, graduating in 1895. Returning to Balaton, our subject followed the painting and paper hanging trades for eight years.

From 1903 until 1906 Mr. Town's residence was North Yakima, Washington, where he was engaged at the same work. Then he returned to Minnesota and has since been farming on the old Rock Lake homestead, working at the trade of painting in some of his spare time. Mr. Town has other business interests, being a stockholder of the Lyon County Co-operative Company and of the Current Lake Telephone Company. He is a member of the Presbyterian church of Balaton and belongs to the A. O. U. W. lodge.

Lucius E. Town was married to Lizzie Hughes, a resident of Blue Earth county, Minnesota. To them were born two children: Elbert, born December 28, 1899; and Leslie, born May 13, 1902. Mrs. Town died in North Yakima in 1903. Our subject's mother died in 1881 and his father is still living on the old homestead at the age of eighty-two years.

JENS B. JOHNSON (1873). A pioneer of Lyon county, a land owner and successful

farmer, a former member of the Board of County Commissioners, and a man who has taken a leading part in the affairs of his community and county is Jens B. Johnson, of Nordland township. For the past forty-one years he has lived on the farm he now conducts, being one of a few men of the county who still live on the land they took as a claim in the early days.

Siljord, Telemarken, Norway, is the birthplace of Mr. Johnson and February 14, 1840, was the date of his nativity. His parents, Jens and Engebor (Jacobson) Johnson, were farmers and Jens was country raised. He attended school until fifteen years of age and was then obliged to shift for himself, his father having died at that time and his mother having passed away when he was nine years old. Until he was twenty-one years old he worked out at different jobs, and then, in 1861, he left his native land and journeyed to America.

The first home in the New World was the city of Chicago, where he resided a short time with a sister. In Rock county, Wisconsin, Mr. Johnson worked at farm labor until 1871; then he rented land in Goodhue county, Minnesota, and farmed two years. The year of Mr. Johnson's arrival to Lyon county was 1873—the first year of the grasshopper scourge. He took as a pre-emption claim the northwest quarter of section 2, Nordland township, just south of the future village of Minneota. At the time ten acres of the land were under cultivation and on the place was a small log house. Mr. Johnson paid \$200 for the claim and secured title later. On that place he has ever since had his home. He has added to his holdings until today he is the owner of 430 acres of well-improved land, having property in Eidsvold and Westerheim townships.

Mr. Johnson served a four-year term as a member of the Board of County Commissioners, has been chairman of the Nordland Township Board of Supervisors, and treasurer of school district No. 71. He is a member of the Norwegian Lutheran church.

The marriage of our subject to Annie Kittelson occurred in Rock county, Wisconsin, in July, 1864. She was born in Nommedal, Norway, December 26, 1839. Her parents, Kittel and Beret (Hellekson) Gundvoldson, died in the old country. To Mr. and Mrs. Johnson have been born the following named

seven children: Betsey, Engebor, Mary, Sina, Annie, John and Gilbert.

JOHN J. GRIFFITH (1870) has been a resident of Lyon county since he was nine years of age. His parents, David E. Griffith and Mary J. Richards, were natives of Wales and Pennsylvania, respectively, and came to Wisconsin in an early day. John was born in Columbia county, Wisconsin, October 6, 1862, and when three years old his parents moved to Blue Earth county, Minnesota, which was their home six years.

In 1870 the Griffith family moved to Lyon county, Minnesota, and located on the east half of the east half of section 12, Custer township, to which the father had bought the homestead right. There John received his schooling and assisted his father until twenty-six years of age, at which time he bought eighty acres on section 7, Monroe township, and commenced farming for himself. For five years our subject remained on that place, and then he sold his land and rented the northwest quarter of section 7, where he has since lived. He has a well improved piece of land and is prospering. He is giving much attention to the breeding of Percheron horses.

John J. Griffith and Katie Wunderlich were married July 4, 1891, in Custer. Mrs. Griffith was born in Wisconsin July 6, 1874, and is a daughter of George and Catherine (Young) Wunderlich, natives of Germany and France, respectively. Eight children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Griffith, as follows: Leon, born 1893; Fred, born 1895; Louise, born 1897; Irving, born 1898; Leslie, born 1900; Annie, born 1903; Morris, born 1905; and Merle, born 1908.

ANDREW NELSON (1868), of Marshall, is the earliest living settler in Lyon county. He was born in Denmark February 1, 1852, and when twenty-three years of age came to the United States. On arriving in his adopted country, Mr. Nelson settled in Wisconsin, where he resided until 1868.

The latter date marks the arrival of our subject to Lyon county, where he took as a pre-emption claim the northwest quarter of section 13, Lynd township, which later proved to be land which the government had granted to the railroad company. Mr. Nel-

son, having done some work on the land, purchased it from the company. He later purchased the southwest quarter of the same section and built his first home, which was a log cabin with a thatched roof. He later hewed logs and built another house, 20x26 feet in dimensions, on the top of the hill about forty rods from the first house. Mr. Nelson traded at Redwood Falls and New Ulm, having to make the trip by ox-team. Our subject resided on the farm until 1908, or about forty years, when he moved to Marshall and has since led a retired life. He still owns the old farms on section 13, Lynd township, and 480 acres more in the county.

When Mr. Nelson came to Lyon county in 1868 there were but few people in the county. Among the settlers of that time were A. R. Cummins and his sons, James and George; Mr. Muzzy, Rev. Wright, Mr. Langdon and four sons, Mr. Ticknor and family, George and Hiram Marcyes. Our subject was treasurer of his school district fifteen consecutive years and is a member of the Danish Lutheran church. He has one brother living, Christian Nelson, of Lynd township.

On February 23, 1867, at Racine, Wisconsin, occurred the marriage of Mr. Nelson to Anna Matson, a native of Denmark. She was born September 18, 1845. Mr. and Mrs. Nelson are the parents of the following children who are still living: Albert, Daniel, and Clara (Mrs. Fred Mannerman), of Lynd township. Those deceased were Clara A., Lois T., Mary J., William A. and Custer D.

ROBERT A. MITCHELL (1868) is one of the largest land owners in the township of Amiret and is one of the earliest residents, having come to the county with his parents forty-four years ago. At that time Robert was only three years of age. Mr. Mitchell owns 480 acres of fine farming land on sections 30 and 16, and his home on the east half of the southeast quarter of section 30 is one of the finest in the township.

The father and mother of Robert Mitchell were natives of Scotland and the state of Maine, respectively. James S. and Martha (Lane) Mitchell came to Lyon county in 1868, and James Mitchell took as a homestead the east half of the southeast quarter of section 30, Amiret township. The Mitchells were among the very first settlers of the

county. They had been living several years in Wisconsin prior to coming to Lyon county, and Robert A. Mitchell was born in Jefferson county of that state June 30, 1865.

Robert grew to manhood on the home farm in Amiret. He attended country school and finished his education with a year's attendance at the Marshall High School. He then assisted with the work on the home place, and in 1885, 1886 and 1887 the young man taught school in the southern part of this county and in Murray county. In 1890 he took charge of Bingham Brothers' grain elevator at Amiret, holding the position three years. In 1893 he erected an elevator of his own and conducted it two years, after which he sold and re-entered the employ of Bingham Brothers, having charge of their Amiret elevator ten years. At the close of that period, in 1905, Mr. Mitchell retired from the grain business and engaged in farming. He has a splendid farm and is having success in the raising of Red Polled cattle. He owns stock in and is a director of the Amiret State Bank, and he has two town lots in Amiret and a share in the company which owns the town hall.

The marriage of Robert Mitchell and Augusta Manke took place in Tracy on March 8, 1892. She was born in Germany March 8, 1873, and came to this country with her parents, William and Wilemina (Mack) Manke, in 1881. The family first located in Chicago, where they lived five years, and later moved to Tracy. There the father died in 1910; the mother is still a resident of the town. Two children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Robert Mitchell. They are William R., born November 19, 1893, and Clarence C., born March 4, 1897.

Mr. Mitchell was clerk of Amiret township fifteen years and served on the township board from the time he was twenty-one years of age until 1908, when he retired. He also served several terms as treasurer of school district No. 13. He is a member of the Methodist church, and his lodge membership is in the A. F. & A. M. and the Modern Woodmen organizations.

E. M. HAMM (1871), secretary of the Western Mutual Fire Insurance Company of Balaton, is one of the very earliest settlers of Lyon county, having resided in Rock Lake

township and Balaton since he was fifteen years of age. He is a homesteader of the township in which he has lived so long.

Mr. Hamm was born in Tioga county, Pennsylvania, August 2, 1855, and in July, 1865, he accompanied the family to Rochester, Minnesota, which was then the western terminus of the Northwestern railroad. He came to Lyon county with the family in May, 1871, driving through by ox team, and until he was twenty-seven years of age he worked on his father's homestead, the southeast quarter of section 24, Rock Lake, not far from the future village of Balaton. The usual lot of the pioneer was theirs, and for some years they lived in a little log cabin. During the grasshopper days it was impossible to raise enough to support a family, and, while the rest of the family remained on the claim, the father and our subject worked during the summer seasons in the counties to the east to earn the money necessary to support the family.

After coming of age E. M. Hamm took as homestead claim the northeast quarter of section 34, Rock Lake, but did not live on the place after proving up. When he was twenty-seven years of age Mr. Hamm started farming on his own account on land which he purchased on section 16. He resided on that farm until 1902 and then moved to Balaton. He has ever since been identified with the Western Mutual Fire Insurance Company and has been its secretary since 1907. He served as township treasurer of Rock Lake and has been a member of the Balaton Village Council for the past three years. He is a member of the A. O. U. W. lodge.

Mr. Hamm was married in Lyon county by O. C. Gregg March 20, 1882, to Ida Melissa Woodard, a native of Buffalo, New York, and a daughter of M. F. Woodard.

Our subject is a son of William and Mary (Peu) Hamm, Pennsylvanians by birth. The father died about twelve years ago and the mother resides in Balaton. E. M. Hamm has two sisters: Inez (Mrs. B. P. Terry), of Balaton, and Lucy (Mrs. Henry Searles), of Tracy.

DAVID STIEFEL (1869) has been a resident of Lyon county for forty-three years, and with the exception of one year, 1869,

when he homesteaded in Lynd township, he has had continuous residence in Lyons township. In January, 1910, Mr. Stiefel moved to Russell and has retired from active work.

Germany is our subject's native country, and he was born in Wurtemberg June 13, 1842. His parents were Charles and Christina Stiefel. At the age of twelve years the young lad's term of education in the common schools was ended and he was put to work on his father's farm, where he did his share of the work for the next five years. The irresistible call of the great country across the Atlantic came to David, as it was doing to so many of his countrymen, and in 1863 he set sail for America and landed in Philadelphia, where he found occupation for a few months at the shoemaker's trade. Mr. Stiefel worked at that and other labor until he enlisted in Company H, Ninety-first Regiment of Pennsylvania Volunteers. He served until the close of the war, taking active part in the battles of Petersburg, Hatches Run, Erlinda Railroad and the siege of Richmond. At the close of the war he was mustered out at Philadelphia and soon afterward returned for a nine months' visit to his native Germany. Returning to America, Mr. Stiefel settled in Illinois and worked with a brother one year. He came to Lyon county and homesteaded in Lynd township in 1869.

David Stiefel was married in 1881 to Jennie Jones, a daughter of E. C. Jones, Sr., of Russell. They are the parents of the following children: Charles, Christine, Louise, Jennie, Katie and Lovina. Two children, William and Katie, are deceased.

SAMUEL HALVORSON (1871) came to Lyon county when a boy and his period of residence here is exceeded by only a few men. He has lived in Nordland township forty-one years. He owns and farms 160 acres of land.

His parents, Andrew and Annie Halvorson, were born in Norway and at the time of their son's birth on September 8, 1864, were living in Green county, Wisconsin. In 1871 the family came with the pioneers to Lyon county and the father took as a homestead claim the northwest quarter of section 28, Nordland. In the nearby district school Samuel secured his education and on his father's farm he worked until his marriage in 1885.

After his marriage Mr. Halvorson started farming for himself on a 240-acre farm on sections 28 and 29 which he had received from his father. In 1902 he sold that property and bought his present farm. He engages quite extensively in stock raising and is a successful farmer. He is a member of the Congregational church and has served as a director of school district No. 24.

Mr. Halvorson was married in Nordland township December 5, 1885, to Betsey Helgeson. She was born in Winnebago county, Wisconsin, April 16, 1866, and is a daughter of Ole and Margaret Helgeson, of Norway. Mr. and Mrs. Halvorson have five children, Alma Marea, Andria Sofea, Oscar Melven, Helda Bertine and Edwin Clarence, all born in Nordland township.

JOHN SCOTT (1872) is a homesteader of Sodus township and one of the oldest settlers of that precinct, having lived on the one place an even forty years. In common with other pioneers of Lyon county, Mr. Scott endured many hardships in the days when the festive grasshopper harvested the grain and the fierce winter storms swept the unbroken prairies.

Our subject was born in Wayne county, New York, March 27, 1852, and he descends from an old New York family. His parents were Charles and Delia (Shaw) Scott. The father died when John was three years old, and soon thereafter he accompanied his mother to Michigan, where he was educated and grew to manhood. In 1872 Mr. Scott came to Lyon county and took as a homestead the southeast quarter of section 24, Sodus township, on which farm he has ever since resided.

Mr. Scott was married in Marshall August 23, 1875, to Mary A. Lewis. She was born in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, August 12, 1853, and is a member of one of the pioneer families of Minnesota. Her parents, Lewis D. and Jane (Davis) Lewis, came from Wales in an early day and made their home at Pittsburgh. They settled in Blue Earth county, Minnesota, in 1857, and members of the family participated in the Sioux War of 1862. Mrs. Scott's father was wounded by the Indians, and an uncle, James Edwards, met his death at the hands of the redskins.

Mr. and Mrs. Scott have four children, all

married. They are as follows: Lewis, of Custer township; Jane, the wife of Henry Edwards; Irwin, of Sodus township; Mabel, the wife of Charles Edwards, of Custer township.

CHARLES C. BELLINGHAM (1871), deceased. One of the most highly esteemed residents of Lyon county was the gentleman whose name heads this review. When Mr. Bellingham came to the county in 1871 and settled in the vicinity of the future village of Marshall, there were only a few scattered settlers in the county and Lynd, the county seat, was the only village; no railroad had yet penetrated the county and the country was almost barren of improvements.

Charles C. Bellingham's parents were Charles Thomas Bellingham and Martha (Long) Bellingham. They came to America from England in 1849, lived at Janesville, Wisconsin, until 1854, in Fillmore county, Minnesota, until 1871, and then moved to Lyon county. Both parents died here.

To these parents, in London, England, Charles C. Bellingham was born March 20, 1847. He was brought with the family to the United States when he was two years old and continued to make his home with his parents until after coming to Lyon county. He and his father and Charles Durst drove an ox-team from Fillmore county in the spring of 1871, camping on the night of May 25 on the site of the city of Marshall. There were then only a few settlers in the vicinity, including C. H. Whitney and C. H. Upton, the first residents of Marshall. A few days after his arrival our subject selected a homestead three miles south of the future county seat of Lyon county and there made his home.

For eighteen years Mr. Bellingham lived on the homestead; then he moved to his home on the outskirts of Marshall, continued his agricultural career, and resided there until his death on January 10, 1910. He was a man held in high esteem and his life was one of activity. Mrs. Bellingham still makes her home on the farm adjoining the city.

Louisa Durst was married to Mr. Bellingham in 1872. She was born in Maryland November 1, 1846, a daughter of Michael and Julia (Yeast) Durst. Her parents spent the winter of 1872 in Lyon county, but returned

to Maryland. Mrs. Bellingham's mother died in that state; her father died in Fillmore county, Minnesota.

Four children were born to Charles Bellingham and wife, namely: Alice (Mrs. Ray D. Baldwin), of Forest Grove, Oregon; Gertrude, deceased; Martha (Mrs. Roy W. Williams), of Lake Marshall township; and Georgie, who resides at home.

OLE HELGESON (1871) owns and farms a good 160 acres of land, the northwest quarter of section 28, Monroe township. He was born June 14, 1870, in Fillmore county, Minnesota, and when about a year old he accompanied the family to Lyon county, the trip being made in a prairie schooner. The father, Ole Helgeson Brevig, took a homestead on the quarter section where our subject now lives, and resided on the place until his death in 1892.

Until his father's death Ole worked for him on the home farm, afterward farming the place for several years in partnership with his brothers, Helge and Louis. Later he took personal control of the farm and has been conducting the place with success.

Mr. Helgeson was married June 28, 1900, to Clara M. Helleson, the wedding occurring in Monroe township. His wife was born in Fillmore county, Minnesota, November 24, 1877, and came to Lyon county at the age of two years. Two children have been born to this union. They are Ingeborg Amelia, born June 26, 1902, and Oscar Julius, born April 7, 1905.

Our subject's father was born in Norway on November 9, 1840, and came to the United States in 1869, living a few years in Fillmore county, Minnesota, prior to coming to Lyon county in 1871. Ingborg (Olsdatter) Helgeson, mother of our subject, was born in Norway and died in 1903, aged seventy years.

For three years Ole Helgeson was treasurer of school district No. 33, and he served as a member of the township board of Monroe one year. He is a member of the Holand Norwegian Lutheran Church.

SAMUEL W. GALBRAITH (1871), dealer in general merchandise and hardware in Balaton, is one of the oldest settlers living in Lyon county, having a continuous resi-

dence of forty-one years to his credit. He served as postmaster of Balaton under the two Democratic administrations and has been a prominent factor in the business life of his village.

Mr. Galbraith is of Scotch-Irish descent. His parents, William and Eliza (Woods) Galbraith, were born in Canada and died in Wisconsin. Our subject is one of a family of five children, the others being Charles and William J., of Adams county, Wisconsin, and Martha Manney and Jenette Tyrnel, of Waupaca county, Wisconsin.

The subject of this review was born at Rochester, New York, January 8, 1841. At the age of one year he was taken by his parents to Logan, Ohio, and when sixteen years old moved with them to Wisconsin and lived on a farm until the Civil War began. He enlisted in Company I, of the Thirty-fourth Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, on November 25, 1862, and served until the close of the struggle.

After the war Mr. Galbraith spent one year in Wisconsin, farmed for some time in Dodge county, Minnesota, and later in Steele county, and on the ninth day of June, 1871, became a resident of Lyon county. He drove from Steele county with an ox team, and on the date mentioned he filed a homestead claim to the northeast quarter of section 28, Lyons township. He still owns that farm and is one of the few homesteaders who still own the land they secured from the government.

Mr. Galbraith's experiences in the early days were not different from those remembered by most of the pioneers of Lyon county. He had trying times but weathered the storms of adversity and has lived to see the county develop into one of the most fruitful in the Northwest. His first home on the bleak prairie was a sod shanty, in which he lived two or three years. Then he built a more pretentious home, a 16x20 feet board house. The lumber contained in the new building was sawed from logs he cut on "Section 37", that being the name by which the early settlers designated a certain timber tract in Coon Creek township, the mill in which they were sawed being located at Camden. The shingles and outside lumber were hauled by ox team from Mankato.

On his homestead Mr. Galbraith continued

to make his home until 1886 and then moved to Balaton, having been appointed postmaster of that village by President Cleveland in May of that year. He also served a second term under President Cleveland. During his second term Mr. Galbraith erected a building and engaged in the hardware business, which he has since followed. He deals in general hardware, shoes, groceries, etc. In the management of his store he is assisted by his son, Walter C., to whom he gave a half interest in 1906. The business is now conducted under the firm name of S. W. Galbraith & Son. Mr. Galbraith, in addition to his other duties, attends to the management of his farm, being the owner of 240 acres of land.

While a resident of Lyons township Mr. Galbraith served ten or twelve years as clerk of school district No. 11, having been the first clerk of the district. In Balaton he served as a member of the Village Council four years.

The marriage of Mr. Galbraith to Ellen Orbin, a native of Fort Elizabeth, New Jersey, occurred in Dodge county, Wisconsin, January 14, 1863. Seven children were born to this union, of whom four are deceased. The living children are Ferdinand S., Walter C. and Lola P.

OLE A. BROUGHTON (1871), one of the first settlers of Vallers township, was born on a small farm in Vallers, Norway, February 9, 1849, a son of Anders and Anna (Olson) Broughton. He was reared in his native land and at the age of eighteen set out alone to seek his fortune in America.

Upon his arrival in America young Broughton located in Iowa county, Wisconsin, where he worked at farm labor and in the pineries the following two years. He then moved to Trempealeau county and was occupied there until the spring of 1871 in the pineries and as a laborer on the railroad. Our subject had then by careful saving accumulated \$120, and with this he came to Lyon county and took as a homestead the southwest quarter of section 6, Vallers township. The township was not organized at that time and there were only two other claims taken that year, John Hella filing on the northeast quarter of section 6 and John Anderson on the northwest quarter.

Times were strenuous for the homesteaders, and the first few years of Mr. Broughton's residence in the township he went East during the falls and worked in the harvest fields. During the grasshopper years the pests took all his oats and he realized only about seven bushels of wheat to the acre. Better years came before long, however, and our subject prospered and improved his land, and today Mr. Broughton's fine 240-acre farm and fine home is an evidence of his thrift and perseverance. He helped organize the township, attended the first election, and has served on the township board six years. He has also been a member of the school board of district No. 56 since it was organized.

Ole A. Broughton and Helena Nelson were joined in the holy bonds of matrimony in Yellow Medicine county March 10, 1874. She was born in Dane county, Wisconsin, January 23, 1859, and her father and mother were Jonas and Marit (Melvatne) Nelson, natives of Norway. The father died in 1890 and the mother lives with her daughter and son-in-law at the advanced age of ninety-one years. Seven children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Broughton, their names being as follows: Andrew, Matilda, Annie, Annetta, John, Julia and Anton. Mr. and Mrs. Broughton belong to the Norwegian Lutheran church.

ANDREW SANDEN (1872), whose parents were the first settlers in Shelburne township, is a retired farmer of Florence. Leaving the farm in 1902, Mr. Sanden moved to Florence and engaged in the hotel and livery business. He sold his interests in 1910 to Erick Erickson and retired from active business life. Mr. Sanden is a stockholder of the State Bank of Florence and still owns a 200-acre farm in Lincoln county and an eighty-acre tract in Lyon county, besides his commodious home and six acres of land adjoining Florence.

In 1871 Peter and Karen (Corneliusson) Sanden, parents of Andrew Sanden, immigrated to the United States from Norway. The family located first in Fillmore county, Minnesota, making a stay of only five months before moving to Mankato for the winter of 1871-1872. In the fall of 1872 the family came to Lyon county and homesteaded in Shelburne township.

Our subject was born in Trondhjem, Norway, September 12, 1855. He attended the common schools until the age of sixteen, at which time the family moved to America. Andrew helped his father on the farm during the early years and experienced the hardships of pioneer days. During the summer months from 1872 to 1876 Andrew worked with a railroad construction crew. In 1876 a quarter section in Lincoln county was taken by the subject of our sketch as a homestead, and there he made his home for twenty-six years, until renting the place and making his residence in Florence.

March 17, 1888, Andrew Sanden married Mary Storle, a native of Norway and a daughter of Arnt and Olive (Storle) Storle. Mrs. Sanden was born November 6, 1867. Two children have been born to the Sandens. They are Clara, born June 7, 1895, and Alma, born July 24, 1900. Andrew Sanden has three brothers living, named Hans, John and Andrew. Ingeborg (Mrs. Erick Ronning) and Melena (Mrs. Paul Ronning), both of Florence, are sisters of our subject.

Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Sanden are members of the Norwegian Lutheran church of Florence.

C. M. GOODRICH (1869), retired farmer and for the past five years a resident of Garvin, is one of the county's old settlers. He is the owner of 213 acres of well-improved land in Custer township and is a stockholder in the Farmers Independent Elevator Company of Garvin.

The Empire State is the birthplace and boyhood home of C. M. Goodrich. His father, Allen Goodrich, was a native of Connecticut, and his mother, Elizabeth (Stevens) Goodrich, was born in Vermont. Both are deceased. Our subject was born January 17, 1846, and his first years were spent in New York State. In 1854 he and his mother and two sisters moved to Wisconsin and made their home on a farm. The following spring they moved to Olmsted county, Minnesota, where they resided until 1858. Then until 1862 they lived in Waseca county. They returned to Olmsted county for another year's residence and later spent several years in Rice county.

In 1869 Mr. Goodrich and his mother came to Lyon county, and they took adjoining

homesteads in Custer township in the early seventies. They were among the first settlers and their experience is the story of pioneer days, punctuated with struggles and hardships. Mr. Goodrich farmed on his homestead practically all of the time from the early seventies until he moved to Garvin a few years ago.

Mr. Goodrich is a member of the Masonic lodge. He is a respected citizen of the community and is enjoying a well-earned rest after a lifetime of hard and honest toil. He has watched the country grow and prosper from the time where there was only an occasional settler's rude cabin to be found within a radius of miles of unbroken prairie until the present day, with farms of rich land and modern buildings.

JEROME MORSE (1871), of Lynd township, is one of the first settlers of Lyon county. He was born in Colden, Erie county, New York, on February 13, 1858. His father, Milo B. Morse, a native of Island Pond, Vermont, went to Colden, New York, when a young man and married Clarinda Irish, a native of Utah City. They removed to Columbia county, Wisconsin, in 1868 and resided there one year. They then came to Minnesota, locating in Oronoco. Later they came to Lyon county, with C. H. Whitney. The father died at Steele, North Dakota, and the mother, aged seventy-four, years, still resides at Steele with her three sons. There are four sons living: Jerome, Edward, Frank and William, the last three residing with their mother. One daughter, Phoebe (Mrs. Robert Bellingham), died in 1891.

Jerome Morse came to Lyon county with his father in 1871. The father pre-empted the southwest quarter of section 4, Lake Marshall township, now a part of the city of Marshall, and C. H. Whitney took the southeast quarter of the same section. They built a sod house, 16x24 feet, across the present Northwestern tracks. There they lived until the fall of 1872; then Milo Morse sold to the townsite company and homesteaded the southwest quarter of section 6, Lake Marshall township.

In 1877 the father sold to George Link and moved to Bellingham, Lac qui Parle county, where he purchased a farm and where our subject took a pre-emption claim.

The latter lived on his place until the spring of 1882, when he went to Brown county, South Dakota, and homesteaded land, upon which he resided until 1885. He then moved to Lac qui Parle county and again took up his residence on his pre-empted farm, where he resided till 1893. On the latter date he sold out and went to Roberts county, South Dakota, and took a claim in the Sisseton country, where he resided until 1907. He then went to Lewistown, Fergus county, Montana, and worked at his trade of plasterer until 1909. He returned to Lyon county and has resided in Lynd township since. He follows his trade of plasterer.

Mr. Morse was married in Marshall December 20, 1878, to Melissa Smith, a native of Horicon, Wisconsin, born May 10, 1861. She is the daughter of Thomas B. and U. K. Smith. The former died during the Civil War in a hospital at St. Louis. The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Morse was one of the first in Marshall. The license was secured from James Williams, who was then clerk of court. They have no children.

**GREGAR AMUNDSON (1872).** A pioneer settler of Lyon county, one of the few men who still live on the homestead they took in an early day, and one of the big land owners, farmers and stock raisers of Nordland township is Gregar Amundson, who for forty years has lived on the southwest quarter of section 22. His farm consists of 560 acres on sections 22 and 27, improved by good substantial buildings and a fine home. He had practically no means when he came to Lyon county and his rise has been accomplished by his own unaided efforts.

In Tellemarken, Norway, on October 10, 1850, Gregar Amundson was born. His parents were Amund and Ragnild (Levson) Olson, both of whom are buried in the old country. In 1872, when he was twenty-two years of age, Gregar broke home ties and journeyed to America. After spending two months in Boone county, Iowa, he came to Lyon county and took his claim in Nordland township, and upon that place he has ever since lived. After passing through the days of adversity that accompanied the grasshopper scourge, he came upon prosperous times and is in comfortable circumstances. He is an extensive stock raiser and makes

a specialty of Shorthorn cattle and Poland China hogs. He is a member of the Norwegian Lutheran church and a director of school district No. 25.

Mr. Amundson was married in Minneota May 12, 1878, to Annie Furgeson. She was born in Winnebago county, Wisconsin, December 14, 1860. Her father, Kittle Furgeson, was born in Norway and died in 1902. Her mother, Margaret (Helgeson) Furgeson, was also born in Norway and now resides in Minneota at the age of eighty-two years. Mr. and Mrs. Amundson have twelve children, named as follows: Ferdinand A., Carl M., Ragnild, Fredericka, Clara, Freda, Alice, Anna, Rudolph, Leonard, Mabel and Abner.

**EDWIN W. HEALY (1871).** The oldest Lyon county settler now living in Tracy is Edwin W. Healy, who with his wife has for forty-one years resided continuously in Monroe township and the city of Tracy. There were only a few people living in southeastern Lyon county when they came and Mrs. Healy was the first American-born woman to live in Monroe township. The family experienced many of the hardships of pioneer days and are richly entitled to a place in this History of Lyon County.

In Dudley, Massachusetts, on the eleventh day of September, 1840, Edwin W. Healy was born. His parents were Davis and Zeruah (Williams) Healy. Both are deceased, the mother having lived to the age of ninety-three years. Until he was ten years old Edwin attended the Dudley Hill school and later the public school at Merino. He completed his schooling at the age of twenty years, having taken a course in Dudley Academy. For two years after quitting school Mr. Healy worked in the mills, and then until 1868 he worked at the carpenter's trade in Webster and Dudley.

In the spring of 1868 Mr. Healy came West. For three years he rented land and farmed in Houston county, Minnesota, and then in 1871 he took up his residence in Monroe township, Lyon county, where he has ever since lived. After taking up his residence in Tracy Mr. Healy for a number of years worked at his trade and also conducted a feedmill. In the spring of 1911 he retired from active pursuits.

Mr. Healy owns a fine home in the city.

He was one of the first clerks of Monroe township and one of those who organized the Methodist church. For a number of years he was one of the church trustees.

On September 22, 1864, occurred the ceremony that made E. W. Healy and Sarah Bates man and wife. She is the daughter of John and Mary Ann (Jacobs) Bates, natives of Connecticut and early settlers of Dudley, Massachusetts, and was born August 29, 1847. They have two children, Fred W. and Arthur F.

OLE L. ORSEN (1874), retired farmer, has lived in Minneota since the fall of 1905. He is the owner of 320 acres of fine, improved land in Westerheim township and also of a fine residence and five lots in the village. Mr. Orsen was county commissioner from district No. 2 eight years and was street commissioner of Minneota one year. He is a stockholder of the Farmers & Merchants Supply Company and was one of the promoters and organizers of the Norwegian Mutual Fire Insurance Company of Eidsvold, Lyon county, of which he has been a director since its organization and of which he was for twenty-one years secretary.

The Norwegian Mutual Company was incorporated February 22, 1879. The head office is at Cottonwood, Minnesota, and the company is authorized to do business in fifty townships of the counties Lyon, Lincoln and Yellow Medicine. There are now over 2400 policy holders and the company has nearly \$5,000,000 of insurance in force. The board of directors for 1912 comprises the following members: O. C. Wilson, Granite Falls, president; C. G. Nelson, Canby, vice president; A. E. Anderson, Cottonwood, secretary; I. L. Kolhei, Cottonwood, treasurer; O. L. Orsen, Minneota; H. G. Odden, Echo; H. P. Rodness, Clarkfield; Chris Wollum, Porter; and Chr. Ramlo, Hendricks, directors.

Our subject was born in Romsdalen, Norway, February 28, 1849, and is a son of Lars O. and Magnild (Aandhal) Aasen, both of whom are dead. The parents came to America in 1874 and located in Allamakee county, Iowa. Two children, Ole and Magnild, had preceded the family to America several years. The family moved to Lyon county and took a homestead on section 18, Wes-

terheim, in 1875, and there the father died eleven years later, the mother living on the farm until ten years before her death, June 6, 1910, at the home of her son Ole in Minneota.

Ole Orsen received part of his education in Norway and later attended high school two years in Monona, Iowa, one term at Waukon, and one year attended a common school of Allamakee county. In the spring of 1874 he came to Lyon county and took a homestead on section 18, in the town of Westerheim, where he farmed until moving to Minneota in 1905. Mr. Orsen is a member of the Hemnes Lutheran church of Lyon county and is a trustee. He was the first town clerk of Westerheim, holding office four years, served on the town board, school board and as justice of the peace, and was one of the organizers of the township. To him belongs the honor of bestowing the name Westerheim upon the township.

In 1878 Ole Orsen married Theoline Strande, a native of Westre Thoten, Norway. They have the following children: Amalia, Lewis, Nickolai Martinus, Alfred, Ludwig, Magnild, Theoline, Mamie Attilia, Nora Sophia and Martin Olai.

REESE DAVIS (1871). One of the oldest settlers of Lyon county now residing in the county and a highly respected citizen of Marshall is Reese Davis. For more than forty-one years he has had a continuous residence in the county and he has seen it develop from a sparsely settled, treeless expanse of prairie to the populous and prosperous conditions of today. Only a few men have had more opportunity than he to participate in the history making of Lyon county.

In South Wales, on April 15, 1844, Reese Davis was born. At the age of three years he accompanied his parents to the New World and grew to young manhood in Jackson county, Ohio. When a little past seventeen years of age, on October 15, 1861, he enlisted in the Union Army and fought for the preservation of his adopted country. He served four years and seven months as a member of Company C, Fifty-sixth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, having been discharged in May, 1866.

Among the battles in which Mr. Davis



MR. AND MRS. REESE DAVIS

Residents of Marshall and Pioneers of Lyon County.



participated during his service were the following: Pittsburgh Landing, April 6, 1862; siege of Corinth, May, 1862; Port Gibson, May, 1863; Champion Hill, May, 1863; siege of Vicksburg, May, June and July, 1863; Jackson, July 12 to 15, 1863; Carrion Crow Bayou, November, 1863; Sabine Cross Roads, April, 1864; Monette Ferry, April, 1864; Snaggy Point, May, 1864; and many minor engagements. At the close of the war he was stationed with his regiment at New Orleans. Because of threatened trouble in Mexico, his regiment was retained in the service for a year after the close of the war.

Upon receiving his discharge in May, 1866, Mr. Davis returned to his home in Jackson county and went through a siege of serious illness. Upon the advice of his physician to seek a change of climate, in September, 1866, Mr. Davis moved to Blue Earth county, Minnesota. There he purchased an eighty-acre tract of land, upon which he resided until he came to Lyon county.

It was during the month of June, 1871, that Mr. Davis located in the county which has ever since been his home. He took as a soldier's homestead claim the southeast quarter of section 8, Monroe township, on which he resided about eight years, and to which he secured title. His first home was a 12x16 feet dug-out, and Mr. Davis asserts that some of the happiest days of his life were passed in that rude shelter. The dug-out was later replaced by a frame house. During the summer of 1872 Mr. Davis had a contract to do the grading for the Winona & St. Peter railroad between Lamberton and the future city of Tracy.

Mr. Davis lived on the farm until the railroad was built westward from Tracy in 1879. Then he moved to Tracy and worked with the bridge builders on the new line between Tracy and Huron. He resided in Tracy until 1887, part of the time working at the carpenter's trade. In the year last mentioned Mr. Davis took up his residence in the county seat, where he has ever since lived. Until ten years ago he worked at his trade, and since that time he has lived a retired life. Mr. Davis is a member of Joe Hooker Post No. 15, G. A. R., of Tracy. He is a member of the Presbyterian church of Marshall and has been an elder of the church

since its organization twenty-one years ago.

The parents of the subject of this biography were Thomas E. and Nancy Davis. They came to the United States in 1847 and both died in Ohio. Four children of the family are living, as follows: Reese, of this review; Daniel, of Ironton, Ohio; Jane Davis, a widow, of Columbus, Ohio; and Ann Morgan, of Columbus, Ohio.

Reese Davis was married in Blue Earth county, Minnesota, January 22, 1868, to Jane Jones, a native of Ohio. They have the following named five children: Esther, the wife of William Russell, of Moorhead, Minnesota; Mary, the wife of Oscar Krook, postmaster of Marshall; Thomas E. and John I. (twins), the former mayor of Marshall and a prominent attorney; and Elizabeth, wife of Thomas Regney, of Laurel, Montana.

JOHN S. OWENS (1874) owns 120 acres of the southwest quarter of section 26, Custer township, and is one of the prosperous farmers of the community. His parents, Robert and Hannah (Jones) Owens, came to Minnesota from Kansas and lived for a time in Brown county before moving to Lyon county in 1874. The father is dead and the mother is living with her daughter, Mrs. Mary A. Weed, at Garvin.

John Owens was born in Leavenworth, Kansas, August 25, 1858, and while very young moved with his parents to Brown county, Minnesota. The lad received his early education in Brown county and finished it in the common schools of Custer township, Lyon county. At the age of eighteen, his schooling being finished, John worked out at farm labor three years, after which he returned to work on the home farm until twenty-eight years of age, when he married and moved to his present farm, land which he had taken as a homestead at the age of twenty-one years. Mr. Owens has prospered and owns a valuable piece of farm land. He has been road overseer of the township and is a stockholder of the Farmers Independent Elevator Company and the telephone company of Garvin.

April 21, 1886, was the date of the wedding of John Owens and Sephorah Roberts, a native of Wales. She was born March 25, 1866, and is a daughter of Richard and Mary Roberts, pioneer settlers of Lyon coun-

ty and Lyons township. Mr. and Mrs. Owens are the parents of the following children: Lizzie May, Minnie, Winnie, Marion, Esther, Hazel and Garvin, all of whom, except Winnie, reside at home. Mrs. Owens' father is dead and her mother resides at Russell. Mr. Owens is a member of the M. W. A. lodge of Garvin and was formerly an officer of the lodge. He and his wife are members of the Congregational church.

RICHARD BLAKE (1872), Lake Marshall township farmer, is a native of Ireland and was born at Kilcaske in 1848. He is the son of Charles and Mary (McCarthy) Blake, of whom the former died in Ireland and the latter died in Minnesota at the age of eighty years.

When twelve or thirteen years of age our subject came to America with his mother and brothers, locating in Boston, Massachusetts, where the family resided about eighteen months. He then moved to Grant county, Wisconsin, where he worked at farm labor and later at the trade of blacksmith in Platteville for several years. The year 1872 marks the date of his arrival in Lyon county, when he filed on the northwest quarter of section 18, Fairview township, as a homestead. He proved up on his claim and improved it. Later he purchased the northeast quarter of section 13, Grandview township, upon which he built and where he lived until 1904. On the latter date he moved to Marshall and spent the winter there. In the spring he moved to a forty-acre tract on section 10, Lake Marshall township, which he owned. Later he purchased forty acres adjoining, making the eighty-acre farm upon which he now resides. Mr. Blake is a member of the Catholic church.

Our subject was married at Platteville, Wisconsin, November 20, 1870, to Margaret Hanlon, a native of Ireland. To them were born the following children: Charles P., born June 26, 1872, died May 11, 1874; Mary C., born August 6, 1874; John W., born March 10, 1877; Richard J., born March 1, 1879, died December 29, 1880; Samuel H., born April 19, 1881, died February 22, 1885; Fred S., born September 8, 1883, died January 24, 1884. Mrs. Blake died January 31, 1884.

Mr. Blake was married a second time,

February, 1885, to Mary Versnick, a native of Belgium. She was born November 18, 1864, and is a daughter of Philip and Rosalie (De Bert) Versnick. To this union have been born the following named children: Elizabeth Julia Mae, born September 13, 1885; Charles E., born June 15, 1887; Sylvester F., born December 12, 1888; James E., born April 14, 1891; Richard W., born February 28, 1893; Margaret E., born July 19, 1895; William J., born December 19, 1898; Leonard W., born April 23, 1901; Edward L., born February 24, 1903; Irene H., born October 3, 1905; Vincent George, born February 23, 1908.

MRS. OLAVA MYRAN (1874) is the widow of C. P. Myran, and she and her husband were early settlers of Lyon county and among the first in Shelburne township. Mr. Myran died September 28, 1907, and the widow still resides on the old homestead farm, the southwest quarter of section 20. The farm is run by two of her sons, Ole and Peder. Mrs. Myran also owns forty acres on the southeast quarter of section 19, Shelburne. She was among the first members of the Norwegian Lutheran church of Florence.

Our subject is a native of Opdahl, Norway, where she was born December 21, 1850, a daughter of Ole and Brielt (Storlie) Gorseth, both of her parents being now deceased. She attended school during her early teens and remained at home helping her parents. In 1871 Miss Gorseth came to the United States in company with Mr. and Mrs. Peder Myran, the parents of the young man she later married. The young woman worked for private families in Mankato two years and then came to Lyon county, where soon after occurred her marriage to C. P. Myran.

The young couple made their home on the southwest quarter of section 20, which Mr. Myran had taken as a homestead in 1872 and which has been Mrs. Myran's home since her marriage. The Myrans experienced the trials and hardships of pioneer life, lived through the grasshopper era and the terrible winters of the early eighties, and welcomed the prosperous years that followed. Mrs. Myran has watched the growth of the county from an unbroken prairie to one of

the best farming regions in the Northwest.

Mr. and Mrs. C. P. Myran were the parents of eleven children: Peder (deceased), born December 3, 1873; Ole (deceased), born December 13, 1877; Peder, born October 26, 1875; Ole, born January 29, 1881; Andrew (deceased), born January 27, 1891; Carrie, born January 2, 1879; Lena, born June 10, 1883; Olive, born October 4, 1887; Inga (deceased), born October 4, 1887; Inga, born August 23, 1895; and Henry, born August 26, 1885.

ELLSWORTH EVANS (1873) is a successful Monroe township farmer who has seen the country develop from a wild prairie to the prosperity of the present day. His father, Solomon Evans, was born in Newton, Wales, in 1818 and came to America about 1844, settling in Utica, New York, and later moving to Wisconsin. In June, 1863, he settled in Blue Earth county, Minnesota, and ten years later took a homestead in Custer township, Lyon county, where he lived until his death on February 16, 1894. Solomon Evans' wife, Anna (Evans) Evans, was born in Newton, Wales, in 1818 and died June 26, 1896, in Lyon county.

At Oconomowoc, Waukesha county, Wisconsin, Ellsworth Evans was born December 19, 1861. When about one and one-half years of age he accompanied his parents to Blue Earth county, and later he came with them to Lyon county. He lived on the old homestead until six years after his marriage in 1891. Ellsworth acquired his education in the country schools and during his young manhood witnessed the trying experiences of the grasshopper days and the big blizzards. The family home in Custer was built of lumber hauled from New Ulm, and this rude cabin was covered with sod. The building still stands on the place.

Ellsworth Evans was married July 16, 1891, in Monroe township, to Mary Edwards. She was born in Cambria, Blue Earth county, Minnesota, April 2, 1867, a daughter of William and Margaret (Davis) Edwards. To Mr. and Mrs. Evans have been born two children, Roger and Raymond, July 15, 1892, and January 1, 1894, being the respective dates of their birth. Our subject farmed the old place for six years after his marriage and then moved to the west half of

the northwest quarter of section 30 in Monroe township, which has since been his home.

Mr. Evans raises considerable stock in addition to his general farming. He is a shareholder in the Garvin Co-operative Elevator Company and is a director and was for many years the president of the Garvin Creamery Company. For the last five years he has been chairman of the Board of Supervisors of the township, of which he was previously a member, and he has served on the board of directors of school district No. 72. In addition to his eighty-acre farm on section 30, Mr. Evans owns the southwest quarter of section 24 and forty-six acres on section 19.

JOHN MONROE (1874) is a retired farmer of Cottonwood and is one of the early settlers of Stanley township. His father, William Monfoe, and his mother, Martha (McFarland) Monroe, were both natives of Cape Britain, and the father when a young man was employed as a sailor on vessels plying the waters in the vicinity of Halifax and on the Great Lakes.

John Monroe was born in Bruce county, Ontario, February 16, 1860, and when he was only fourteen years old the family moved to Lyon county, the father taking a homestead in Stanley township, the southwest quarter of section 2. That was our subject's home for the next fourteen years, and at the age of twenty-eight he bought a quarter on section 36, Lucas township, and there pursued his vocation of farmer until bringing the family to Cottonwood to live some thirteen years ago.

Since making his home in the village Mr. Monroe has served eight years as police officer. His record in that office and his integrity and high standing as a public citizen made him a formidable candidate for the office of sheriff in the election of 1910, Mr. Monroe being defeated by Mr. Grannan, the present incumbent, by only sixty-four votes. Mr. Monroe has spent some time in the Rainy Lake region, having purchased timber land in Beltrami county a few years ago.

The subject of this sketch was married in Stanley township February 5, 1892, to Sadie E. Gary, a daughter of John Gary.

a Stanley township settler of 1874. Mrs. Monroe's birthplace is Ontario, Canada. The children of Mr. and Mrs. Monroe are Gladys and Howard. A son, Leland, died when three years old.

Fraternally, John Monroe is a member of the A. O. U. W. and the Masonic lodges, and his wife belongs to Equity Lodge No. 221, of Cottonwood.

The aged father of John Monroe died in 1910, having lived to be eighty-seven years of age. He lived on the old Stanley township homestead until the death of his wife fifteen years ago. Afterwards he returned to his old home in Cape Britain, where he resided until his death.

ALVAH R. TOWN (1871), manager of the elevator of the Eagle Roller Mills at Balaton, came to Lyon county when he was only two years of age. He is the son of two of the oldest settlers of Rock Lake township, who now live in Balaton.

His parents, Alvah S. and Sarah R. (Clark) Town, were born in the eastern states, settled in Indiana in an early day, resided there a number of years, and in 1871 became residents of Lyon county. Alvah S. Town and his three brothers, Lucius, Julius and Ralph, came together and each took as a homestead a quarter of section 22, Rock Lake township, adjoining the present platted village of Balaton. Of these brothers, Lucius still lives on the homestead, Julius is dead, and Ralph lives at Rockford, Illinois.

Alvah Town's claim was the southeast quarter of the section. On it he erected a little shack with lumber hauled from Heron Lake, in which the family lived several years. The devastation brought by the grasshoppers proved too much for the Town family, and in 1875 they left the country and returned to their former homes in Indiana. Ten years later, however, they returned, lived on the farm two years, and since that date have lived in Balaton. Besides our subject there is one other child in the family, Elsie (Mrs. Elmer Hughes), of Flint, Indiana.

Alvah R. Town, the subject of this review, was born at Salem, Indiana, February 12, 1869. He came to Lyon county with his parents in 1871, returned to Indiana with them in 1875, and came back to the county again

in 1885. After spending two years on the farm he became a resident of Balaton, and that village has since been his home. Alvah worked in the Balaton creamery two years and then took up carpenter work, which he followed until 1902. That year the Eagle Roller Mills erected an elevator in Balaton and Mr. Town was given the position of manager, which he has since filled.

The Eagle Roller Mills elevator was erected in Balaton in the fall of 1902. The head office of the company is at New Ulm, from which it operates twenty-four plants in Minnesota and thirty-nine in South Dakota. The present officers are as follows: Charles Salverson, president; William Salverson, first vice president; J. H. Siegel, second vice president; Charles Vogtel, secretary; H. L. Beecher, treasurer. The company deals in grain, coal, flour and feed.

Mr. Town was married at Balaton in March, 1889, to Frankie L. Jones, a native of Waseca county, Minnesota. To them have been born the following named seven children: Jule, Verne, Harold, Bessie, Roy, Helen and Lulu. Mr. Town holds membership in the A. O. U. W. and M. W. A. lodges.

JASPER L. HAVENS (1874) is the owner of a fine quarter section farm in Amiret township and has been a continuous resident of the county for the past thirty-three years. He was born in Green county, Wisconsin, November 23, 1859, and is a son of Luther and Lovina (Palmer) Havens.

Luther and Lovina Havens, natives of New York, moved to Wisconsin when quite young. The father was a farmer, and when the Civil War broke out he enlisted. His army service broke his health and he died in 1865, at which time the subject of our sketch was only six years old. When eight years of age Jasper moved with his mother to Waseca, Minnesota, and four years later he was placed in the Soldiers' Orphans Home at Winona, where he remained until 1874.

Jasper's mother married again, moved to Lyon county in 1873, and took as a homestead the southeast quarter of section 24, Amiret township. There our subject went to live in 1874, and the next few years were spent in working out at farm labor in Amiret township and in the vicinity of Waseca, to which place he returned for a period. In

1879 Mr. Havens and his two brothers proved up on a homestead, the northwest quarter of section 24, Amiret township, to which they had fallen heir upon the death of their father. Later Jasper bought his brothers' interests and is now proprietor of the quarter section.

The subject of this sketch is a stockholder of the Farmers Elevator Company, the Creamery Company of Tracy, and the Amiret State Bank. He has been called upon to serve the township on its governing board and was clerk of school district No. 23 three years. He is a member of the Presbyterian church.

The ceremony which united Jasper Havens and Elizabeth Purves in the holy bonds of matrimony was performed in Amiret township September 30, 1889. She was born in Waukesha county, Wisconsin, November 13, 1868, and is a daughter of Peter and Elizabeth (Johnston) Purves. Her parents were natives of Scotland and both are deceased, the father having died in 1889 and the mother in 1908.

THOMAS D. SEALS (1874) is the oldest living settler of Minneota and a man who has played a most important part in the affairs of that village. He has seen the town grow from a place of two shacks to the prosperous municipality of today. He has been engaged continuously in business there for thirty-six years, his business interests now consisting of a general merchandise store, a wholesale produce establishment and farming.

The pioneer whose name heads this review is of Scotch-German ancestry. His father, Spencer Seals, was born in Scotland and early in life became a resident of Pennsylvania; his mother was born in Pennsylvania, of German ancestry. Both parents died when our subject was a child.

Thomas D. Seals was born to these parents while they were residents of Pennsylvania but while on a journey in Tennessee. The date of his birth was October 23, 1837. His life has been an eventful one. Left an orphan at a tender age, he grew to manhood in Washington county, Pennsylvania, where he received his education.

Upon the outbreak of the Civil War Mr. Seals joined the volunteers in the defense

of his country, serving in both the army and navy. He enlisted in the navy in New York and his ship, the *Galata*, saw service in Southern waters. Part of the time it acted as convoy to mail steamers and visited many foreign waters, its principal station being Hayti. Mr. Seals was in the army at the time of the battle of Bull Run and he was wounded in that engagement. He was in the service until the close of the war.

After peace was declared Mr. Seals spent several years traveling, visiting the South and many parts of the western frontier. He made the trip to California in 1870 and made the trip up the Missouri river from St. Louis to Yankton with General Custer in the spring of 1872. Our subject located in Flandreau a little later and opened a store and trading post for the Sioux trade. He then established a store at Lake Benton, conducted it a year, and then moved the stock to Marshfield, Lincoln county, and founded the first business enterprise there. A few months later, in November, 1874, he moved the stock to Minneota, where he has ever since been in business.

Mr. Seals selected that location after looking the country over with a view to finding a healthful place in which to live. At that time he weighed only 100 pounds and was a dyspeptic. He has never been ill since and soon after locating at Minneota he weighed 150 pounds. He attributes it to the healthfulness of this part of the country.

Upon his arrival to Minneota in the fall of 1874 Mr. Seals found the town to consist of only two buildings, a blacksmith shop and N. W. L. Jager's little shack containing a few goods. He engaged in the drug and general merchandise business and soon had a prosperous trade. At the present time, besides his business interests in Minneota, Mr. Seals devotes his time to farming, he and the family owning about 600 acres of land in Yellow Medicine county. For twenty years Mr. Seals held the office of justice of the peace for Minneota. He is a member of the Grand Army of the Republic.

In Minneota, on December 28, 1879, Mr. Seals was united in marriage to Edith Kenyon, a native of Minnesota and a daughter of Charles P. and Amanda M. Kenyon, early settlers of Lyon county. Mr. and Mrs. Seals have an adopted daughter, Dorothy Seals.

who is fourteen years of age and a high school student.

Mr. Seals has a sister, Anna C. Spinks, of Tennessee, and a half-sister, Mrs. R. T. White, of Alabama.

MRS. ANNA MASTERS (1868), resident of Garvin, is the widow of Henry C. Masters, who died in May, 1908. She was born at Dayton, Ohio, August 17, 1836, and is a daughter of Russell and Amanda (Gunn) Randall, both of whom are deceased.

Henry C. Masters was born in Springfield, Illinois, May 27, 1831. His parents were Robert and Nancy Ann (Taylor) Masters. February 24, 1856, he was married to Anna Randall of this sketch. To this union the following children were born: Edwin (deceased), George (deceased), Frank, Samuel, Luanna (Mrs. Edward Edwards), of Garvin; Maxson and Clark.

Our subject and her husband were among the very first settlers in Lyon county. They took a homestead in Custer township in 1868 and commenced farming. In those days the settlers were compelled to drive to New Ulm for groceries and their mail, a distance of about eighty miles, and the story of their early years in the county is the story of the earliest pioneer residents. Mr. Masters died in Kalispel during a trip to Montana in 1882.

MRS. ERICK RONNING (1872) is the widow of Erick Ronning, one of the earliest homesteaders in Shelburne township, who died in July, 1908. She is the owner of a comfortable home and twenty-five acres of land adjoining Florence.

Mrs. Erick Ronning was born in Trondhjem, Norway, December 23, 1843, the daughter of Peter Anderson and Carrie (Corneliusson) Sanden, neither of whom is living. Our subject attended school in Norway and at the age of twenty-two she came with the family to this country. In 1870 she was married to Erick Ronning, a native of Norway. She and her husband came to Lyon county in 1872 and settled in Shelburne, where the husband farmed until his death. Mrs. Ronning has since lived in town. The Ronnings were the parents of the following children: Knute, born March 10, 1871; Pe-

ter, born June 27, 1873; Menna, born November 10, 1875; Carrie, born April 12, 1878; Edward, born August 22, 1880; and Inga, born August 21, 1882.

Mrs. Erick Ronning has been for many years a member of the Norwegian Lutheran church.

R. M. ADDISON (1872) is the senior member of the firm of R. M. Addison & Son, hardware dealers of Marshall, and he is the pioneer business man of that city. He has played a most important part in the history of Marshall during the forty years of his residence in that city and has done much toward the upbuilding of the city. He has served as mayor of Marshall and was treasurer of Lyon county one term. For the past twenty years Mr. Addison has been vice president of the First National Bank of Marshall.

In Manchester, England, our subject was born. When a child he accompanied the family to America and for a time lived in Providence, Rhode Island. When he was ten years of age the family came West and settled in Iowa county, Wisconsin, and there he grew to man's estate. On the thirteenth day of August, 1862, Mr. Addison enlisted as a private in Company E, Twenty-third Wisconsin Infantry, and served in the old army of the Tennessee under General Grant. He participated in the Vicksburg campaign and other engagements in the rear of Vicksburg, including Port Gibson, Jackson, Big Black River Bridge, Champion Hill, etc. At DeCroe's Point, Texas, two years after he entered the army, he was commissioned first lieutenant. He was the highest commissioned officer of his company and was in command during the rest of the war, bringing the company back to Wisconsin for muster out. The father of our subject, Robert M. Addison, served as a surgeon in the Twenty-ninth Wisconsin Regiment during the Civil War.

After the war Mr. Addison located at Waseca, Minnesota, formed a partnership with William Everett, now deceased, erected the first business building in that village in 1867, and engaged in business there until his removal to Marshall late in 1872. For the purpose of engaging in business in the new town of Marshall, the firm of William

Everett & Company was formed, composed of William Everett, R. M. Addison and Charles A. DeGraff, the latter the head of the railroad contracting firm which was building the railroad through Lyon county.

Mr. Addison hauled lumber from New Ulm and erected the first building for business purposes in the village. The railroad was then being built and the town had not yet been platted. The frame shanty he erected, 16x13 feet with a lean-to, was put up in what proved to be a street, directly in front of the site of the present Lyon County National Bank. In that building Mr. Addison began his business career in Marshall. The firm carried a large stock of goods and the railroad workmen patronized it liberally. The daily sales at the store at times reached \$2000 to \$2500. At the time of locating in the town Mr. Addison also engaged in the implement business in partnership with H. Tripp, who carried the mail between Redwood Falls and Lynd. Mr. Tripp was a prominent man in the early history of the county and had many friends. The partners established their business on the corner back of the present Addison Block—a business now conducted by R. M. Addison & Son.

After the completion of the railroad to Marshall Mr. Addison and S. H. Mott purchased the pioneer store of William Everett & Company, and two years later our subject became the sole proprietor of the business. He conducted the store for a time in the building on the corner now owned by Arthur Drew and later occupied the Reichert Block. In 1887 he erected the handsome business block he now occupies and engaged in the hardware business exclusively. For a few years Frank Reed was a partner in the business, and twelve years ago Harry Addison became his partner, since which time the firm has been styled R. M. Addison & Son.

R. M. Addison was married at Waseca, Minnesota, in February, 1867, to Ella A. Wood, a native of New York State. She died in Marshall in February, 1906. Mr. Addison has three children: Harry, Edith (Mrs. S. Kennan), of Helena, Montana; and Robert M., Jr. Mr. Addison is a member of D. F. Markham Post No. 7, Grand Army of the Republic.

proprietor of a confectionery, cigar and notion store at Garvin and is one of Lyon county's oldest settlers, having made settlement in Custer township forty-one years ago. In the early days he played an important part in the affairs of his community.

Mr. Thomas was born in Allegany county, Maryland, September 24, 1847, and spent the first thirteen years of his life in his native state. He came West with the family in 1860 and lived one year in Columbia county, Wisconsin. In 1861 he went with the family to La Crosse county, Wisconsin; in 1863 to Rock Island county, Illinois; in 1868 to Boone county, Iowa; in 1870 to Blue Earth county, Minnesota; and in 1871 to Lyon county.

The Thomas family made the trip to Lyon county with ox teams, and settlement was made on section 4, Custer township. The father took as a homestead claim the northeast quarter of the section and our subject the southeast quarter. A log house, with shake roof and puncheon floor, was built on the place and in that the family lived for some time. No railroad had yet penetrated the county, and during the first winter Benjamin Thomas made five trips by ox team to Lake Crystal to bring in material and supplies.

Mr. Thomas farmed the homestead until 1884. Then he gave up farming and located at Minnesota Lake, where for two years he bought grain for Hodges & Hyde. He then located at Hankinson, North Dakota, and for many years was employed as a grain buyer. He returned to Lyon county in 1901 and for two years conducted his farm. Mr. Thomas then became a resident of Garvin. He managed the Sleepy Eye elevator at that point a year and a half and then bought and shipped stock for a year or two. He established his present business in 1907.

In 1876 Mr. Thomas circulated a petition asking for the right to organize the township in which he lived, under the name of Reno, in honor of the general in charge of the forces against the Indians in Montana. Before the required permission was granted, however, the Custer massacre had occurred and the township was named in honor of General Custer, whose life had been sacrificed a few months before. Mr. Thomas was the first clerk of Custer township and served sev-

BENJAMIN F. THOMAS (1871) is the

eral terms. He is a member of the Masonic lodge.

The parents of Benjamin Thomas were two of the best known residents of southern Lyon county. They were Benjamin and Catherine (Jones) Thomas, natives of Wales, who came to America at the ages of nineteen and twelve years, respectively. They were married in Allegany county, Maryland, and there all their children, excepting Ruth, were born. Both parents died on the Custer homestead, the father in 1884, the mother in 1892. The children of the family are Mrs. William Hughes, of Garvin; Ann (Mrs. Richard Hughes), deceased; Benjamin, of this biography; James J., of Tracy; Ruth (Mrs. Rees Price), of Tracy; and Joseph B., of Garvin.

Our subject was married in Custer township to Loretta Delong. She was born in St. Lawrence county, New York, and died March 7, 1897, at the age of thirty-eight years. Mr. Thomas has three children: Edgar, who is engaged in railroad work in the West; Harvey, of Wells, Minnesota; and Hattie, who attends school at Wells.

**WILLIAM E. BERRY** (1874), one of the oldest residents of Amiret township and one of its prosperous farmers, is the proprietor of the southeast quarter of section 15. This farm used to be known as the Rowell homestead, owing to the fact that its former owners were Louis and Patience (Vrooman) Rowell, parents of our subject's wife. The Rowells, natives of New York and Pennsylvania, respectively, came to Lyon county in 1877 and Mr. Rowell purchased the land from the railroad company.

Our subject's parents were William and Adelia (Fuller) Berry and were natives of New York and Maine, respectively. They settled in Lyon county in the spring of 1874, and the father took as a homestead a quarter in Sodus township and a quarter as a tree claim. The family made their residence on the homestead and their first few years in the county were full of hardships and privations, as the grasshopper years were just beginning. They made their home on the farm until their deaths.

William Berry was born in Clark county, Wisconsin, April 7, 1863, and accompanied his parents to Lyon county at the age of eleven years. In 1888 he married and moved

to the farm in Sodus township which his father had taken as a tree claim when the family came to the county. There Mr. Berry resided until the fall of 1906, when he moved to his present farm in Amiret township, having purchased the same a short time previous. He has put very substantial improvements on the place and has one of the finest farms and homes in the township.

At Tracy, Minnesota, May 26, 1888, Mr. Berry was married to Susie Rowell, a native of Oconomowoc, Wisconsin. She was born February 20, 1869. Her father is dead and her mother lives with her daughter and son-in-law. Mr. and Mrs. Berry are the parents of two children, Gladys B., born December 17, 1891, and Laura A., born April 7, 1900.

Mrs. Berry is one of the seven children born to Mr. and Mrs. Louis Rowell. The others are Chauncey, John S., who has mining interests in Alaska, and Lewis L., all of Amiret township; Charles (deceased), Patience Bell (Mrs. Jay Nichols), of Hayti, South Dakota; and Ira V., an engineer in the employ of a construction firm in Minneapolis. Mr. Berry has two brothers, Adelbert, of Edmonton, Canada, and Edward, of Sodus township.

Mr. Berry is a member of the Modern Woodmen lodge of Amiret. He has served one term as a member of the Amiret Township Board of Supervisors.

**OLE J. WIGNES** (1878), farmer of Eidsvold township, is an ex-member of the Board of County Commissioners, a pioneer resident of his precinct, and a man who has been actively identified with the affairs of his county and township. His residence here covers a period of thirty-four years.

In Toten, Norway, on the twenty-fifth of August, 1853, Ole Wignes first saw the light of day. His parents, Ole and Ellen (Fjelhog) Wignes, are buried in the land of the midnight sun. Until he was sixteen years of age Ole attended the common schools of his native land; then for a year he worked for his father on the farm.

Having decided to cast his fortunes in the New World, Ole Wignes left his native land in the spring of 1871, being then less than eighteen years of age. From the date of his arrival in America until the spring of 1878 he worked at farm labor near the city of

La Crosse, Wisconsin, and in the Wisconsin pineries. He then came to Lyon county and purchased the southwest quarter of section 27, Eidsvold township, two miles west of the little village of Minneota, and he still owns and operates that farm.

The first two winters after his arrival Mr. Wignes worked in the pineries of Wisconsin, but in the spring of 1880 he returned to the county for permanent residence, having been married at that time. He has ever since resided on the farm he bought in the early days and has prospered exceedingly, now being the owner of 480 acres of Lyon county farming land. He raises Poland China hogs and grade horses and cattle. Besides his farming operations Mr. Wignes has other business interests. He is a stockholder of the First National Bank of Minneota, and he was one of the organizers of and for several years was president of the Farmers Elevator Company of Minneota.

During his long residence in the county Mr. Wignes has many times been called upon to serve in an official capacity. From 1890 to 1894 and from 1898 to 1902 he represented his district on the Board of County Commissioners and two years of that time he was chairman of the board. He was a member of the Eidsvold Board of Supervisors two years and for several years has been assessor of his precinct. For more than thirty years he has been treasurer of school district No. 55. Mr. Wignes is a member of the English Lutheran church of Minneota and was formerly a church trustee.

Mr. Wignes was married at La Crosse, Wisconsin, March 26, 1880, to Caroline Evanson. She was born in Wisconsin September 16, 1861, a daughter of Christian and Agnete (Hemah) Evanson. Her father resides near La Crosse; her mother is dead. The following named five children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Wignes: Edwin, Oscar, Alma (Mrs. Gilbert Severson), of Nordland township; Carl and John. The four boys reside at home.

In 1896 Mr. Wignes paid a four months' visit to his old home in Norway, his parents both being alive at that time.

HENRY K. FURGESON (1875), one of Island Lake township's most prosperous farmers, was born in Winnebago county,

Wisconsin, May 20, 1857. His parents were Kittel and Margaret (Helgeson) Furgeson, natives of Telemarken, Norway, and they came to the United States in 1849. They settled near Nina, Wisconsin, where our subject was born and where he received his early education and resided until twelve years old.

In 1869 the family moved to Freeborn county, Minnesota, and there they made their home until 1875, in which year they came to Minnesota and Kittel Furgeson filed on the southeast quarter of section 4, Island Lake township, as a homestead. On that farm our subject grew to manhood, and when twenty-five years of age he bought the homestead right to the southwest quarter of section 10 and proved up on the place. He later bought additional land on sections 16 and 9 and is now the owner of 360 acres of the township's best land. He has fine buildings on the place and is raising a great deal of stock for market. Mr. Furgeson is a stockholder in the Farmers Elevator Company of Minneota.

Our subject married in the township December 19, 1881, taking for his wife Aasil Johnson. She was born in Telemarken, Norway, January 21, 1862, and her parents, Bjorn and Engebor (Stenerson) Johnson, came to this country in 1866, settling in Story county, Iowa. They came to Lyon county in 1872, and the father filed on a homestead on section 32, Nordland township, where he and his wife lived until their death. Mr. and Mrs. Henry Furgeson are the parents of the following children: Clara M., born March 23, 1884; Fredrik B., born April 21, 1887; I. Sophie, born June 20, 1889; Hannah A., born November 11, 1891; Ella J., born July 28, 1895; Mabelle A., born June 10, 1897; Alice H., born August 28, 1901; and Elmer H., born May 14, 1904.

Mr. Furgeson is a member of the township board and is a director of school district No. 62. He is a member of the Norwegian Lutheran church.

KNUD E. KJORNESS (1874) and Ole L. Orsen are the two oldest settlers of Minneota in point of residence in Lyon county. Mr. Kjorness has a fine residence in Minneota and leads a comparatively retired life, farming a little and raising some stock. He is

the owner of 600 acres of first-class land close to Minneota and 480 acres in McLean county, North Dakota.

Our subject was born in Valders, Norway, March 1, 1851. Knud and Rognild (Kjorness) Fodness, his parents, are both dead. Knud's schooling was that of the average Norwegian farmer boy and was completed by the time he was fifteen. A year later he came to America, locating in Allamakee county, Iowa, and working at farm labor for fifty cents a day. He was eager for more education and attended country school during the winter months for the next four years. Later for two years he was a student in the high schools of Lansing and Waukon, Iowa.

In the spring of 1875 Mr. Kjorness drove from Allamakee county to Lyon county and took a homestead on the northwest quarter of section 24, Eidsvold township, having driven up the year before to look over the country. He farmed until 1895, when he moved to Minneota, and for the next ten years farmed land near the village. He retired from active life in 1906.

June 11, 1895, Knud E. Kjorness and Sarah Kjorness, a native of Dane county, Wisconsin, were joined in the holy bonds of matrimony. She is the daughter of Andrew and Inga (Olson) Helliison, who are living in Westerheim and who came to the county in 1875. To our subject and his wife have been born three children: Andrew, on December 25, 1896; Elmer, on October 3, 1901; and Roy, on January 6, 1904.

Mr. Kjorness was treasurer of the Norwegian Evangelical church for several years and has been secretary of the Farmers & Merchants Supply Company of Minneota for eleven years. He has served as justice of the peace, been chairman of the Board of Supervisors of Eidsvold, has spent several years as town clerk and town treasurer, and was for a time treasurer of school district No. 39.

JOHN C. TWEET (1874). One of the finest improved farms in the immediate vicinity of Tracy is the one belonging to Mr. Tweet, on the northwest quarter of section 4, Monroe township. When our subject came to the county there was no town of Tracy, and there were only a few scattered

settlers living in the southeastern part of the county. Mr. Tweet at once bought a right from Gilbert Gilbertson to the land which he now owns and took it as a pre-emption claim, later changing the filing to a homestead. He has lived on the place ever since.

The first years of Mr. Tweet's residence were discouraging ones. His home was the little 14x16 feet shanty put up by Mr. Gilbertson prior to Mr. Tweet's arrival. Our subject's crop of grain in 1875 was destroyed by the grasshoppers and he spent the fall of the year in the harvest fields in Blue Earth county, earning enough to keep his family. The crop in 1876 was also lost, and Mr. Tweet again worked out to provide food and clothes for the folks at home. His fortitude prevailed and years of prosperity have more than made up for the early years of hardship. Mr. Tweet has in late years added considerably to his original holdings.

Our subject's parents were Christian Tweet and Anbgar (Johnson) Tweet, both now dead. John was born in Norway September 1, 1842, and lived in his native land until 1869, receiving his education and working on his father's farm and at the carpenter's trade. Coming to America in 1869, the young man located in Columbia county, Wisconsin, where he lived four and one-half years, except four months spent in Norway on a visit. Immediately upon his return to America Mr. Tweet came to Lyon county and purchased the farm where he has since lived. He has been a supervisor four years in Monroe township and was treasurer ten years. He is a member of the Norwegian Lutheran church.

John C. Tweet was married October 9, 1874, in Monroe township to Oleana Johnson, a native of Norway, where she was born December 11, 1856, coming to America and locating in Lyon county in 1874. To Mr. and Mrs. Tweet have been born the following children: Emma C., Henry E. and Annie, all of whom are deceased; Clara H. (Mrs. Thomas Jones), of Brainerd, Minnesota, born April 13, 1880; Peter Alexander, of North Dakota, born March 12, 1882; Eddie K., of Canada, born November 9, 1889; Carl A., who resides at home, born January 12, 1887; Julia O., a school teacher, born July 28, 1890; Stella J., born July 21, 1894; and

Emma Alice, born January 18, 1896. The two last named attend school.

JOHN B. GISLASON (1879). An early settler and a man prominent in the affairs of his township and county is John B. Gislason, a farmer of Westerheim township. He has held several local offices and been in the forefront of many campaigns for the betterment of Lyon county. He is first vice president of the Lyon county branch of the Southern Minnesota Better Development League and vice president of the Lyon County Agricultural Association, of which society he was president seven years. He was Westerheim's township clerk two years and clerk of school district No. 3 six years. He holds membership in the Masonic and Woodmen lodges in Minneota.

Mr. Gislason was born in Iceland December 6, 1872. When he was seven years of age, in 1879; he came with his parents to America and Lyon county and has ever since resided in Westerheim township. He attended the district schools until eighteen years of age and made his home with his parents until his marriage in 1895. He rented the home farm in 1893 and purchased it from his father in 1900. In addition to that 200-acre farm on section 10, he is the owner of eighty acres on section 3, making him a farm of 280 acres. The place is known as Hillside Homestead and contains one of the finest homes in the county. Mr. Gislason raises registered Oxford Down sheep and grade Durham cattle and Poland China hogs. Besides his farm property he is the owner of the Gislason Block in Minneota. He is a stockholder in the Farmers Mutual Elevator Company of Minneota.

Lecta E. Edwards became the wife of Mr. Gislason on November 13, 1895. She was born in Iceland February 25, 1875. Her parents, Edward and Cecilia (Johnson) Thorleifson, came to America from Iceland in an early day. The father took a homestead in Swede Prairie township, Yellow Medicine county, and resided on the place until his death on December 14, 1884; the mother still lives in that county.

Eight children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Gislason, as follows. Harold Miles Hugo, born November 10, 1896; Byron Edward, born December 26, 1898; Julian Ber-

nard, born October 9, 1900; Francis Alexander (deceased), born August 28, 1902; Cecilia Adalborg, born August 6, 1904; William Bjorn, born September 13, 1906; Francis Alexander, born August 28, 1908; John Frederick, born November 29, 1910. All the children reside at home.

Bjorn and Adalborg (Johnson) Gislason, parents of John B. Gislason, came to Lyon county from Iceland in 1879, arriving in Minneota on the twenty-first day of July of that year. They purchased the farm in Westerheim now operated by their son from a homesteader and conducted the place until 1893. Thereafter until his death on August 9, 1906, the father continued a resident of Westerheim township; the mother makes her home with the subject of this review. Bjorn Gislason was born September 10, 1827; Adalborg Johnson was born December 20, 1836.

CHRISTIAN CUPP (1878), a resident of Coon Creek township, is one of the older settlers of Lyon county. He was born in Heilbronn, Wurtemberg, Germany, May 17, 1847. His parents were Christof and Katherine (Hoetzer) Cupp, both of whom are deceased. Christian attended school in Ober-eisesheim, Germany, until eighteen years of age, after which he worked for his father on the farm until twenty.

In 1867 Christian immigrated to America and located in New York City, where he remained a year. He then worked in a suburb, Harlem, for two years, going from there to St. Louis and Southern Missouri, where he remained six years as superintendent of a cotton-gin. Returning to Germany, he remained a month, after which he returned to St. Louis, where he worked in the iron works for a few months, going from there to Illinois and Iowa, working as a harvest hand. In 1876 he landed in Newry, Freeborn county, Minnesota, near which place he worked at farm labor for one and one-half years.

In the fall of 1878 Mr. Cupp homesteaded the southwest quarter of section 6, Coon Creek township, which he still owns and operates. Since that time he has become the owner of 280 acres on section 7, of the same township, making him the owner of 440 acres of fine land. In addition to general farming, Mr. Cupp raises considerable stock,

including Black Polled Angus cattle, grade hogs and Red Leghorn chickens. He is a member of the German Lutheran church and the A. O. U. W. and A. F. & A. M. lodges. Mr. Cupp is a stockholder of the Tyler Telephone Company and has been treasurer of school district No. 66 for twenty-five years. He was a member of the Township Board of Supervisors fifteen years and is assessor of Coon Creek township.

On March 4, 1885, Mr. Cupp was married to Caroline Louise Gurr, a daughter of William and Katherine (Keller) Gurr, deceased. Mrs. Cupp was born April 2, 1863. Mr. and Mrs. Cupp are the parents of the following named children: William, Henry, Sophia, Clara and Carl. All reside at home. Mrs. Cupp has three brothers and three sisters, as follows: William, August, Henry, Pauline, Wilhelmina and Mary, all of whom reside in Germany.

BYRON P. TERRY (1877), a dealer in farm machinery at Balaton, is one of the pioneer residents of southern Lyon county and a man who has taken a prominent part in the affairs of his community. For over thirty-five years he has resided in Rock Lake township and Balaton.

Byron P. Terry was born at Berlin, Wisconsin. In the spring of 1877 the family set out from their Wisconsin home by ox-team for the new land of Lyon county. They drove to Winona and then entrained for Marshall. The father bought the northeast quarter of section 20, Rock Lake township, having arrived at the new home on June 30, 1877. The father conducted the farm three years and then moved to St. Paul. At that time our subject bought the farm, and for the next fourteen years he engaged in farming it.

After leaving the farm Mr. Terry moved to Balaton. His first occupation in the village was as a clerk in the hardware store of D. F. Sanders, which was conducted in the building in which Mr. Terry now carries on his business. For seven years he was on the road as a traveling salesman for machinery companies and for a time worked for the Laird-Norton Company. Later he conducted a livery barn for three years. In partnership with James Murrison, he bought Eng Brothers' hardware and implement business,

but two years later sold to his partner and again engaged in farming on his property two miles west of Balaton. He returned to the village one year later and in November, 1910, he bought his present business house and put in a new stock of implements. Besides his machinery business Mr. Terry is engaged in the conduct of his farm. For sixteen years he served as justice of the peace, giving up the office in 1904.

Mr. Terry was married in the village in which he has lived so long on July 17, 1880, to Inez L. Hamm, the eldest daughter of William Hamm, one of the county's pioneers. She was born at Painted Post, Pennsylvania. To these parents two children have been born, Guy E., of Haynes, North Dakota, and Maud M., who died in 1902, at the age of eight years.

The parents of our subject were Thomas L. and Margaret D. (Daniels) Terry, both natives of Syracuse, New York. They came West in an early day, Mr. Terry being the second settler in Berlin, Wisconsin. He was a newspaper man and founded the Berlin Courant, the first paper in that town. After living on his farm in Rock Lake township, Lyon county, two years, in 1879 he moved to St. Paul and took employment with the Horne & Danz Manufacturing Company, by whom he was still employed at the time of his death in September, 1891. He was sixty-five years old when he died. The mother of our subject died at Hennessey, Oklahoma, in 1904, at the age of seventy-one years.

There are five children in the family of Thomas L. and Margaret Terry, named as follows: Lucy (Mrs. E. T. Slayton), of St. Paul, Minnesota; Minnie (Mrs. Nathan Mathews), of Poy Sippi, Wisconsin; Byron P., of this sketch; Mary (the wife of Dr. Austin F. Merrill), of Hennessey, Oklahoma; Maud M. (Mrs. Fred Chase), of Oakland, California.

OLAF DOVRE (1874) is a successful farmer and stock raiser of Eidsvold township. He owns 520 acres of land in that precinct and has one of the township's finest farm homes. He has gained a reputation for his blooded stock, for which he has a ready sale. He raises pure-bred Shorthorn cattle and Duroc-Jersey and Poland China hogs. Excepting one year, Mr. Dovre has

spent his entire life on the farm he now conducts.

His parents, Knud O. and Anna (Skaar) Dovre, were born in Norway and came to Lyon county in the spring of 1872. They were among the first settlers of Eidsvold township, Knud Dovre taking as a homestead the land upon which his son now resides. The father of our subject died September 1, 1899; the mother lives with her son. The living children of the family are Ole, of Fessenden, North Dakota; Olaf and Sarah, who resides with her brother in Eidsvold. The deceased children of the family were named Mary, Barbara and Ole.

Olaf Dovre was born on the Eidsvold homestead August 9, 1874. He attended district school until eighteen years of age and worked for his father on the farm until the latter's death in 1899. He conducted the farm a year and a half after that and then purchased the interests of the other heirs. He has ably managed his affairs and is in prosperous circumstances.

Mr. Dovre is a stockholder of and was formerly a director of the Farmers and Merchants Elevator Company of Minneota. He was a director of school district No. 55 for three years. He and his family are members of the Norwegian Lutheran church of Minneota and he holds membership in the Modern Woodmen lodge of the same village.

Anna Mary Rafling became the wife of Mr. Dovre at Elbow Lake, Minnesota, June 2, 1904. She was born in Lyon county November 7, 1882, and is a daughter of Anton and Anna (Dovre) Rafling. The family came to Lyon county in 1880 and a few years later moved to Grant county, now living at Elbow Lake. Mr. and Mrs. Dovre's children are Karl Adolph, born January 2, 1908, and Alice Evelyn, born August 2, 1910.

**JOSHUA GOODWIN (1872).** An early settler of Lyon county and a man who has played a part in pioneer times is the gentleman whose name heads this review. For an even forty years he has resided in this county, most of the time in the county seat engaged in contracting. He now lives a retired life, enjoying the fruits of his earlier activities.

Mr. Goodwin was born in Bay Deverte, New Brunswick, Canada, July 28, 1832, of

English stock. His paternal grandfather was an Englishman and served as a drummer boy in the battle of Waterloo. His father, Amos Goodwin, was born in Canada and died in 1845; his mother, Amanda (Brundage) Goodwin, was also born in Canada and is deceased.

Until he was seventeen years of age Joshua Goodwin attended school in his native province; then he served an apprenticeship to the ship-builder's trade and worked at the trade for a number of years. In 1855, when he was twenty-three years of age, Mr. Goodwin came to the States and until he enlisted in the army during the Civil War he worked at the carpenter's trade—eighteen months in Oshkosh, Wisconsin, until the fall of 1858 in Kinmundry, Illinois, and until 1860 in Nashville, Tennessee.

Then he returned to Illinois and in the spring of 1861 he enlisted as a private in an Illinois regiment. He became a lieutenant of Company B, Fortieth Illinois Volunteers, and served until the latter part of 1863, when on account of ill health he received an honorable discharge. After the war Mr. Goodwin resided in Illinois until 1872, recovering his health.

In the spring of that year Mr. Goodwin came to Lyon county and took a homestead claim in Lynd township, which he still owns. He made his home on the claim a while and then took up his residence in Marshall. He spent one and one-half years near Sheridan, Montana, where he had charge of a mine for the Gold Mining and Milling Company of Chicago. Mr. Goodwin carried on a contracting and building business in Marshall until 1897, when he retired from active pursuits. He is the owner of 360 acres of Lyon county real estate and property in Marshall.

During the grasshopper days of the seventies Mr. Goodwin did not lose faith in the country and was instrumental in keeping many of the discouraged settlers on their claims. He is a charter member of the Masonic lodge of Marshall.

Mr. Goodwin was married at Kinmundry, Illinois, February 14, 1865, to Dillie M. Pearson, who was born in Mount Gilead, Ohio, July 4, 1847, and who died July 14, 1903. Her parents were natives of New Hampshire. Ten children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Goodwin, as follows: Charles Prescott, born December 17, 1866; Eugene Hubbard, born

June 1, 1869; Edna (Mrs. V. B. Seward), born November 22, 1870; Lonta, born October 31, 1873; Mehitabel Whitney (Mrs. S. E. Whitmore), born February 26, 1877; Blanche (Mrs. Bert B. Dane), born June 26, 1880; Mell Augusta (Mrs. George A. Silvius), of Mineral Springs, North Dakota, and Grace (Mrs. John Peterson), of Faribault, Minnesota, twins, born April 19, 1885; Harold and Edith, deceased.

FRANK E. BILLS (1872), of Lynd, is one of the pioneer residents of Lyon county. He is a native of Pennsylvania and was born February 13, 1845. He is the son of the late Henry and Electa (Dike) Bills, early residents of Warren county, Pennsylvania. They immigrated to Somerset, Steele county, Minnesota, in 1856. The father was a native of New York and the mother of Virginia.

Our subject received his early education in the land of his nativity. When twelve years of age he accompanied his parents to Steele county, Minnesota, where he worked for his father until twenty-two years of age. He then rented land for five years in Steele county, after which he came to Lyon county, in 1872. He took a pre-emption claim, which he held for five years, and then returned to Steele county in 1877 and farmed until 1882. That year he went to Denver, Colorado, where he remained until 1890, working at the carpenter's trade. In 1890 he returned to Lyon county and worked at the carpenter's trade for two years. He then worked at different towns in Minnesota at his trade until 1905, when he moved to Lynd.

In 1866 Mr. Bills was united in marriage to Ida Culver, a daughter of John Culver, of Steele county, Minnesota. Mrs. Bills was born in Wisconsin September 18, 1850. Two children were born to this union: Mary Estelle (Mrs. Frank Sutton), of Denver, Colorado, and Effie May (Mrs. Frank Riggs), of Los Angeles, California.

Mr. Bills owns a ranch in Cuba and also some mining stock in Alaska. He makes his home with his niece, Mrs. Maggie Williams, at Lynd and works at his trade as wagon-wright and cabinetmaker.

EDWARD EDWARDS (1872), proprietor

of the Pacific Hotel at Garvin and owner of 320 acres of good farming land in Sodus and Custer townships, was born in Utica, New York, November 17, 1860. His parents, Thomas and Ellen (Williams) Edwards, came West, resided in Blue Earth county for a short time, and in 1872 took as a homestead the northwest quarter of section 34, Sodus township. The father and mother lived on the homestead farm until 1900, when they moved to Garvin, where Mrs. Edwards still resides. Mr. Edwards died in 1904.

Edward received his education in Blue Earth and Lyon counties, attending the common schools. He engaged in farming at home until 1883, in which year he purchased eighty acres on section 33, Sodus township, and began farming for himself, a few years afterwards adding 160 acres to his holdings. In 1887 Mr. Edwards moved to Montana, where he lived two and one-half years, engaging in railroading. Returning to Lyon county in 1890, our subject resumed farming and during the next eight years increased his holdings to 320 acres. In 1898 he moved to Garvin and built the Pacific Hotel, which he has since conducted. He still owns his land and gives considerable attention to the farms in busy seasons, leaving the hotel in the care of Mrs. Edwards.

June 8, 1884, Edward Edwards was married to Louanna Masters, a Rice county girl. She was born December 13, 1866, and is a daughter of Henry C. and Anna (Randall) Masters, the former of whom is dead and the latter living in Garvin. Mr. and Mrs. Edwards are the parents of three children: Maud (Mrs. John Holden), of Garvin; Thomas Henry, born June 24, 1890; and Maxson, born March 2, 1896. Mrs. Edwards is a member of the Congregational church of Garvin. Her husband is a member of the Elks lodge of Mankato. Mr. Edwards has held the office of constable and justice of the peace in Garvin most of the time since his residence in the town.

HENRY FREESE (1878). One of the most prosperous and widely known farmers of Lyon county is Henry Freese, of Lake Marshall township, who has been a resident of Lyon county over thirty years. He was born in the province of West Fahlen, Germany, September 6, 1839, the son of Herman

and Minnie (Tosbach) Freese. He attended school in the land of his nativity until fourteen years of age, after which he worked out at farm labor two years. He then immigrated to the United States, settling at Fort Madison, Iowa, where he worked as a wood-chopper and at farm labor eighteen months. Later he went to Madison, Wisconsin, where he worked three years in a nursery and at farm labor.

In 1862 Mr. Freese enlisted in Company D, Twenty-third Wisconsin Infantry, as a volunteer. He was mustered in August, 1862, and mustered out in May, 1865. He took an active part in several battles, including the battle of Vicksburg. After the war he moved to Minnesota, locating in Sibley county, near Le Sueur, where he purchased 240 acres of land, selling out six months later. He then purchased an eighty acre tract in the same county, later adding forty acres more, and making that his home until 1878.

In the last named year Mr. Freese moved to Lyon county and homesteaded land in Island Lake township, also taking a tree claim and a pre-emption, making him 480 acres of real estate. He farmed that eighteen months. He then purchased the eighty acres upon which the Marshall fair grounds are now located, on section 8, Lake Marshall township. Later he became the owner of section 7, Lake Marshall township, the west half of which he still owns, and the east half of which he sold to his sons, Noah Walter and George Arthur. Mr. Freese is a member of the German Evangelical church and the G. A. R., D. F. Markham Post No. 7, of Marshall. He was a school officer in Sibley county for several years and also in Lyon county, of district No. 9. He is a shareholder in the Lyon County Agricultural Society and owns several lots in Long Beach, California, where he spends his winters.

Mr. Freese was married in 1868 to Sarah Schmitt, a daughter of Christian Schmitt, of Kasson, Dodge county, Minnesota. To Mr. and Mrs. Freese were born the following named children: William, Arthur, Mary (Mrs. L. C. Moyer), Lydia (Mrs. A. J. Abernathy), Lawrence, Noah, Edward, Rollin, Elsie and two who died in infancy. Mrs. Freese died May 4, 1911.

THOMAS NELSON (1872) is one of the Custer township farmers who came to the county in the early days, when the settlers were few and when the nearest trading points were New Ulm and Redwood Falls. He remembers how the farm work was done with the aid of oxen and that the trips to New Ulm after supplies took at least a week. Mr. Nelson of late years has been leaving much of the management of the farm to his son Edwin and has been enjoying a deserved rest from active cares.

Norway is the native home of Thomas Nelson and he was born in September, 1833, a son of Nels and Sarah (Yoe) Nelson, both of whom are dead. Thomas received his education in Norway and at the age of sixteen commenced to learn the carpenter's trade, which occupation he followed for several years. Later, for a period of years, the young man served in the army.

Coming to America in 1865, the subject of our sketch located in Decorah, Iowa, where he worked at his trade a few years; then he moved to Rochester, Minnesota, and followed the same line of work. In the spring of 1872 Mr. Nelson moved to Lyon county, locating in Custer township and taking as a homestead the southwest quarter of section 34. In addition to general farming, Mr. Nelson takes much pride in his herd of Hereford cattle and in his Duroc-Jersey swine. He is a stockholder in the Farmers Independent Elevator Company of Garvin and in the Garvin Telephone Company.

In 1872 Thomas Nelson was married to Karen Evanson, a native of Norway. Mr. and Mrs. Nelson are the parents of four children, Henry, Neil, Edwin and Emma (Mrs. Christ Nelson), of Garvin. Mr. Nelson is a member of the Norwegian Lutheran church of Monroe township, of which he was at one time treasurer.

JAMES J. THOMAS (1871), who now lives a retired life in Tracy, is one of the very oldest of the settlers of southeastern Lyon county. He came when a boy thirteen years old, forty-one years ago, and has spent the best part of his life as a resident of Lyon county. He has seen the country develop from a wild and almost uninhabited

prairie to one of the most prosperous communities of Minnesota.

In the county of Allegany, Maryland, on the twenty-seventh day of May, 1858, James J. Thomas was born. When a child he was taken by his parents to Wisconsin, lived there a short time, and thereafter lived a few years respectively in Rock Island county, Illinois, and Blue Earth county, Minnesota. In the spring of 1871 the family came to Lyon county and the father purchased from Zibe Ferguson a homestead claim on section 4, Custer township.

At the time of the arrival of the Thomas family there were only ten or twelve families in the vicinity, on the Cottonwood river. Among them were James Mitchell, Sr., Charles Grover, Lafayette Grover, George Robinson, Ogan Johnson, Clark Goodrich, Landy Soward, John Avery, Henry Masters, Charles Dailey and Horace Randall. On the Thomas claim was a rude log shanty. Lumber was hauled from Mankato with ox teams and an addition was made and the shanty otherwise improved. This served as the family home until a modern building was erected in 1892.

James Thomas spent his early days on the claim. From 1880 to 1883 he was located in the western territories; then he returned and took the management of the home farm, which he and his brother Joseph had purchased. They later added to their holdings by purchase until they have a farm of 560 acres. Mr. Thomas remained on the old farm until 1910, when he retired from active pursuits and located in Tracy.

Olive A. Olson, a native of Wisconsin, became the wife of Mr. Thomas, the ceremony having been performed in Sodus township on August 16, 1893. Mrs. Thomas is the daughter of Tollef Olson, one of the early settlers of Sodus township and now a resident of Balaton. Mr. and Mrs. Thomas have two children, Grace and Lloyd.

Benjamin B. Thomas was the father of James Thomas. He was born in Wales and came to the United States when eighteen years of age. He married Catherine Jones, who was also born in Wales and who came to America at the age of eight years. Both died on the Custer township farm. The children of this family are as follows: Margaret Hughes, of Garvin; Fen'F., of Garvin; Ruth (Mrs. Reese Price), of Tracy; James

J., Joseph B., of Garvin; and Anna (Mrs. Richard Hughes), deceased.

CHARLES W. GOODRICH (1876) has been a continuous resident of Grandview township since coming to the county in 1876.

He was born in Lake City, Wabasha county, Minnesota, August 26, 1861. His parents, William I. and Margaret (Boody) Goodrich, natives of Connecticut and Massachusetts, respectively, settled in Wabasha county in 1856 and resided there until 1875. That year they moved to California for a residence of one year before coming to Lyon county.

In the spring of 1876 the father took a homestead on the southeast quarter of section 12, Grandview township. There the family made their home until 1891, when they moved to Marshall, and there made their home until Mrs. Goodrich's death in 1894. Since that time Mr. Goodrich has lived with a son in Louisiana. He is a veteran of the Civil War, having been a member of Company M, First Wisconsin Volunteer Regiment. He served thirteen months and was honorably discharged on account of ill health.

The subject of this sketch attended the common schools of Wabasha county in his youth and later went to school in California one year. He resided with his parents after coming to Lyon county until 1882 and then purchased land in Grandview township and started farming for himself. After six years on the place he sold out and rented three years, later purchasing his father's farm. In 1903 he sold one eighty and has since that time conducted the remaining eighty acres. He has a well improved piece of land and raises considerable stock. For several years Mr. Goodrich was road overseer of the township.

On February 24, 1881, occurred the marriage of Mr. Goodrich and Lizzie Williams, a native of Grant county, Wisconsin. She was born August 4, 1863, and died March 4, 1904. To this union were born six children, two of whom, Ethel and John, are living at home with their father. The others died in infancy.

Mr. Goodrich is a member of the Baptist church of Minneota. Fraternally he is allied

with the Modern Woodmen lodge of Marshall.

LOUIS RIALSON (1872), a business man of Tracy, is one of the oldest settlers of southeastern Lyon county, having resided there continuously for the past forty years. In the early days he took part in many of the history-making events, assisting in the organization of Monroe township and holding several offices under the township government, and in later years he has been identified with the political and business life of his community to a considerable extent.

The birth of our subject occurred in Green county, Wisconsin, January 11, 1851, and in that county he lived until coming to Lyon county in 1872 at the age of twenty-one years. He is of Norwegian parentage, both his parents, Rile and Lucy Evanson, having come from the old country. He has two brothers, Andrew and Ole. The former lives in Kandiyohi county and is a former member of the Minnesota Legislature.

Louis Rialson drove from his former home in Green county, Wisconsin, to Lyon county, arriving during the month of June, 1872, and at once filed a homestead claim to the southwest quarter of section 22, Monroe township, a short distance west of the present city of Tracy. But at the time of his arrival there was no Tracy, no railroad in the county, and the only settlers in the vicinity were the families of Ole Anderson, Ole Helgeson, Andrew Christianson and Kittel Christopherson. The first year our subject lived in a sod house which stood on the claim of his brother, Ole, on the southeast quarter of section 23. Ole Rialson had filed his claim in the spring of 1872 but did not make permanent residence thereon until that fall.

For some little time the trading point for these early settlers was Currie, but later, when the railroad was built, limited supplies could be procured at Saratoga, near the present site of Amiret, and within a short time Tracy was founded. Mr. Rialson assisted in the organization of Monroe township and suggested its name, in honor of the county seat of Green county, Wisconsin. This occurred in January, 1874. During the dark days of the grasshopper scourge Mr. Rialson continued to make his home on the

claim and his family remained there continuously, but he was obliged to seek work elsewhere to make both ends meet. During the summer season he worked for his brothers, Evan and Andrew, at Norway Lake, north of Willmar.

From the time he took the claim forty years ago until 1906 Mr. Rialson lived on the place and he still farms it, although he now makes his home in Tracy. For a number of years before moving to town he had been engaged in the mercantile business in company with A. R. Thompson and the partners also dealt in coal. He has continued the business since moving to Tracy and in August, 1911, he bought the Sleepy Eye elevator and now deals in grain, coal, feed and salt. When he engaged in the new line of business he admitted his son, Edward, as a partner and the business is now conducted under the firm name of Rialson & Son.

Of Monroe township Mr. Rialson served as assessor several terms. He has been alderman of Tracy three terms and is now serving his third term as a member of the Board of Education.

Mr. Rialson was married in Marshall in July, 1874, to Bertha Ellofson, a native of Norway. They have eight children, named as follows: George, Minnie, Ella, John, Freddie, Clara, Edward and Lilly.

GUSTAV LEDEL (1873) has lived in Nordland township since he was a boy eight years of age. He was born in Namsos, Trondhjem, Norway, April 1, 1865, and the year following his birth was brought by his parents to America. The family farmed in Racine county, Wisconsin, four years, in Dallas county, Iowa, three years, and in 1873 they came in a prairie schooner to Lyon county.

The father took as a homestead claim the southeast quarter of section 24, Nordland township, and on that place Gustav grew to manhood and has ever since resided. He worked for his father until a man grown and for the past twenty years has had charge of the farm. For three years Mr. Ledel served as township assessor and he was road overseer for eight or ten years. He is a member of the Norwegian Lutheran church.

Ole A. Ledel, the father of our subject, died

April 30, 1912, at the age of eighty-four years. Josepha (Spellum) Ledel, his mother, still lives on the old Nordland homestead and is sixty-eight years of age. Gustav is the oldest of a family of three boys and five girls. The other children are Matilda (Mrs. H. R. Hanson), Nellie, Josie (Mrs. Chris Bang), Annie M. (Mrs. Gus Peterson), Adolph, of Minneapolis; Annie and Olaf, who are deceased.

ANDREW HELLIKSON (1875), of Westerheim township, is a pioneer of Lyon county and a man who is conversant with much of its early history. He has been a continuous resident for the past thirty-seven years and has seen his part of the county develop from a wild prairie state into one of the richest agricultural districts of Minnesota.

Norway is the native land of Mr. Hellikson and he was born March 16, 1835. He came to America with his parents in 1842, lived for some years in Walworth county, Wisconsin, and later near Blue Mounds, Dane county, whence he came to Lyon county in 1875. Upon his arrival he took a pre-emption and a tree claim on section 18, Vallery township, lived there two years, and then moved to his present location in Westerheim.

He paid \$300 to Olaf Orsen for a tree claim, on which ten acres had been broken but on which no buildings had been erected. There were then only a few settlers in Westerheim and his nearest neighbor was Gula Peterson. Mr. Hellikson improved the farm and has ever since made his home thereon. He has prospered and is today the owner of 480 acres of fertile Lyon county soil. Many hardships were encountered in the early days. Mr. Hellikson remembers a trip he made in March, 1881 (the year of the deep snow); no trains were yet in operation and the ground was covered with several feet of snow. He made the trip from Ghent to Sleepy Eye on snow shoes, it taking him three days to make the journey.

Mr. Hellikson is a member of the Norwegian Lutheran church of Minneota. He is one who assisted in the organization of school district No. 3 and he was a director of the district one year.

The parents of our subject were Hellik and Sarah Hellikson. They took a home-

stead claim in Jackson county, Minnesota, near the village of Brewster, in 1873 and resided on the farm until their deaths. They are buried in the Heron Lake cemetery.

The marriage of Andrew Hellikson to Inger Cliffgard occurred in Prairie township, Dane county, Wisconsin, March 31, 1860. She was born in Norway and came to the United States at the age of twenty-two years. Eight children were born to this union, of whom the following named three are living: Sarah (Mrs. Knud Kjørness), of Minneota; Mrs. John E. Berg, wife of a farmer of Westerheim township; and Anton, who lives on the home farm.

VIRGIL B. SEWARD (1879) has been engaged in the practice of law in Marshall for the past thirty-three years. He was born on a farm near Larwill, in Whitley county, Indiana, October 4, 1853. When he was less than two years of age, in May, 1855, he accompanied his parents to Mankato, Minnesota, and practically his entire life has been passed as a resident of Southern Minnesota. He was educated in the Mankato public schools and in the University of Minnesota. Later he studied law at Mankato under M. G. Willard and at Stillwater under Congressman J. N. Castle. Mr. Seward was admitted to the bar in September, 1878, practised at Mankato until the spring of 1879, and then took up his residence in Marshall.

He has served as president of the City Council, mayor and village recorder. He was county attorney of Lyon county four terms, having served during the years 1885, 1886, 1889 to 1892, inclusive, and in 1895 and 1896. He was elected state senator from the seventeenth district in 1906 and served one term.

The parents of our subject are the late Amos D. Seward and Pleiades (Barber) Seward, natives of Tallmadge, Ohio, and New York State, respectively. They were of old Connecticut stock, the family's settlement in America dating back to the sixteenth century. They were pioneers of Indiana, having located there in the late forties, and settled at Mankato, Minnesota, in 1855. The elder Mr. Seward erected the first gristmill and sawmill in that frontier village—a mill that met destruction in the

Sioux War of 1862. Amos D. Seward moved to California in 1885 and died there in 1908 at the age of ninety-three years. Mrs. Seward, who is now ninety-three years of age, lives at Ventura, California.

Virgil B. Seward was married at Marshall October 22, 1893, to Edna Goodwin, a native of Illinois and a daughter of Joshua Goodwin, an early settler of Lyon county. Mr. Seward is a member of the Blue Lodge, Chapter, Commandery and Shrine of the Masonic orders, and of the Sons of the Revolution and the Royal Arcanum.

FRANK A. ADAMS (1877) has lived in Eidsvold township since he was a boy fifteen years of age. He was born in Oneida county, New York, January 14, 1862. At the age of four years he was taken with the family to Plainview, Minnesota, and three years later to Redwood Falls. A little later the family located in New Ulm and there Frank attended school, his instructor being M. E. Mathews, the Marshall attorney. In 1874 the family moved to St. Paul and in that city young Adams continued his education.

He accompanied his parents to Lyon county in June, 1877, his father taking as a homestead claim the west half of the southwest quarter of section 4, Eidsvold township. On that place our subject has ever since resided. His father left the farm in 1883 and since that time Frank has owned and farmed the old homestead. He has since purchased an additional quarter section and farms all his land. He feeds hogs and cattle quite extensively. Part of the old claim shanty erected by the father in 1877 still stands on the homestead, a reminder of pioneer days. In 1908 Mr. Adams erected a fine two-story, ten-room house and he has one of the fine homes of the vicinity. Mr. Adams has served as a director of school district No. 43.

Mr. Adams descends from old New England stock, his ancestors having settled in the colonies prior to the Revolutionary War. His father, Francis R. Adams, was born in Massachusetts and is now a resident of St. Paul. Frances Louisa (Winchell) Adams, the mother of our subject, was born in New York State and died in St. Paul about 1892. There were seven children in the family, of whom the following five are living: Frank

A., of this biography; Hattie Munsell, of Redwood Falls; William, a conductor of the Northern Pacific, residing in St. Paul; Nell Voight, of St. Paul; and Charles, a dining car conductor on the Northern Pacific, residing in St. Paul.

Charlotte L. Conger became the wife of Mr. Adams on July 4, 1883, the ceremony being performed in Marshall. Mrs. Adams was born in Durand, Wisconsin, and is a daughter of Samuel Conger, who settled in Lyon county in 1880. Eight children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Adams, as follows: Francis, Clara (Mrs. Ray Dillon), of South Dakota; Harry, William, Ralph, Stella, Roy and Kate.

HENRY D. MORGAN (1873) owns and farms the west half of the northeast quarter of section 12, Custer township. He was born February 22, 1873, in that township and is a son of James and Mary (Davis) Morgan, natives of Wales.

His parents came to the United States when children and settled in Blue Earth county, Minnesota. There they grew up in the same neighborhood and were married. In an early day they located in Lyon county. Henry received his schooling in Lyon county and grew up on the farm. His young manhood was spent helping his father on the farm. In 1897 our subject went West, and the next three years were spent in Montana and Wyoming working in the mines.

Henry Morgan returned to Lyon county in 1899 and was given eighty acres of land by his father, which he has since conducted, and where he has made his home. He has been raising considerable stock on his farm and has invested in various enterprises, owning stock in the Farmers Elevator Company of Garvin and being a stockholder and president of the board of directors of the Current Lake Telephone Company. Mr. Morgan has also been called upon to fill several of the township offices. He is chairman of the Township Board of Custer, served one year as a member of the board, and was several years clerk of the school district. He is active in church affairs and is a member of the Congregational church. The county Y. M. C. A. work in the Garvin community is looked after by Mr. Morgan.

Margrette Hughes, a Lyon county girl, be-

came the wife of Henry Morgan on May 11, 1896, and the ceremony was performed at Marshall. She was born April 10, 1874. Her people located on a homestead on section 12, Custer township. Her father, Richard Hughes, a native of Wales, still lives on the old farm, at the age of seventy-two, and her mother, Ann (Thomas) Hughes, a native of Maryland, died in 1894. Three children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Henry Morgan: Louis M., born November 9, 1898; Herald G., born January 24, 1905; and Donald A., born July 22, 1908.

THOMAS E. DAVIS (1877), mayor of Marshall and an attorney of that city, is one of the best known men of Lyon county—a man who has played an important part in the affairs of his community. Although born outside the county, his parents were residents of Lyon county at the time, and he has spent his entire life here.

Thomas E. Davis was born in Judson, Blue Earth county, Minnesota, February 18, 1877. He was brought to Lyon county by his parents when a babe. He was graduated from the Marshall High School in 1894 and during the next year he worked at various occupations. He was a student at Macalester College in 1895 and 1896, preparing himself for the ministry, but he changed his plans and decided to become a lawyer. In March, 1898, he entered the law office of M. E. Mathews, where he read law during the next three years. In March, 1901, he entered the office of Senator V. B. Seward, completed his studies, and the same year was admitted to the bar.

The law firm of Mathews & Davis was then formed and until April, 1902, our subject was engaged in practice with the older attorney. He then opened an office in a dingy little room containing no furniture except a kitchen table loaned by his mother. To purchase books he borrowed one hundred dollars from Col. A. R. Chace. In September, 1902, Mr. Davis received the Republican primary nomination for county attorney, defeating E. C. Patterson, the incumbent, with a majority of 276. At the general election he defeated E. B. Johnson, of Tracy, an independent candidate, by a majority of 540. He received the Republican nomination without opposition in 1904, but

was defeated at the general election by B. B. Gislason, of Minneota, by 214 votes.

During his term as county attorney Mr. Davis was exceptionally successfully in the prosecution of criminal cases, securing 140 convictions out of 143 cases, including minor and major offences. His law business has grown rapidly, and today he enjoys one of the largest law practices in Southwestern Minnesota. He devotes his time exclusively to the trial of cases and has a large practice in Redwood, Yellow Medicine, Lac qui Parle and Swift counties.

Mr. Davis has taken an active interest in politics and is an orator of state-wide reputation. In the campaigns of 1908 and 1910 he made speeches for the state and national tickets in many parts of the state, spending several weeks in Minneapolis, Duluth and other cities. He has been mentioned as a candidate for congress and is credited with the ambition to represent his district in the nation's law-making body. Locally he has held several offices in addition to that of county attorney. In 1908 and 1909 he served as alderman from the second ward, and in April, 1910, he was elected mayor of the city, defeating H. P. Fulton by ninety-eight majority.

Mr. Davis is a man of family. He was married at Chetek, Wisconsin, June 26, 1906, to Mabel Emma Johnson. She is a native of that place, having been born May 17, 1884. She is the daughter of Ole and Mary Johnson, who were born in Norway. Two children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Davis: Esther Mabel, born March 4, 1908, and Dona May, born June 23, 1910. Mr. Davis holds membership in the M. W. A., Royal Arcanum, Maccabees, Elks and Knights of Pythias lodges.

The subject of this biography is the son of Reese and Jane (Jones) Davis, the former a native of Wales and the latter of Ohio, she being of Welsh descent. Reese Davis came to the United States at the age of three years and located with his parents in Ohio. In 1861 he enlisted in Company C, of the Fifty-sixth Ohio Infantry, served the period of his enlistment, and then re-enlisted and served until the close of the war. Jane Jones located in Blue Earth county, Minnesota, with her parents in 1858. After the war Mr. Davis located in the same county, where was a large Welsh settlement, and



THOMAS E. DAVIS

Mayor of Marshall (1910-12) and an Attorney of That City.



there the parents of our subject were married. They moved to Lyon county in 1873 and took a homestead claim in Monroe township. They left the farm in 1882 and located in Tracy, and four years later moved to Marshall, where they have since resided. Mr. Davis is a trustee of the First Presbyterian Church and has been since the church was built.

Reese and Jane Davis have five children, all living and all graduates of the Marshall High School. Following are the names of the children: Esther, the wife of William Russell, an attorney at Moorhead; Mary Agnes, the wife of O. A. Krook, who is postmaster of Marshall; Elizabeth Ida, who was the assistant principal of the Laurel, Montana, schools and who is now the wife of Thomas Rigney, a merchant of Laurel; Thomas E., of this biography, and his twin brother, John I., who is an attorney at Benson, Minnesota.

CHARLES TRUAX (1875), Amiret township farmer, is a native of Lyon county. He was born at Tracy on November 12, 1875, and is a son of Samuel S. and Adeline E. Truax, the latter being deceased. The parents were born in Ohio. In 1871 they came to Lyon county and homesteaded the northwest quarter of section 32, Amiret township, where they resided until 1908. In the latter year they moved to Wyoming. To them were born the following children: Nettie, Lydia, May, Ella, Charles and Samuel.

The subject of this review has spent his entire life in Lyon county and was educated in the district and high schools of the county. After finishing his schooling he resided on his father's farm in Amiret township until 1905. In the latter year he moved to Amiret village, where he bought grain for Bingham Brothers five years. In May, 1911, he returned to his father's farm, which he has since conducted in connection with his own farm which adjoins it. Our subject is a member of the M. W. A. and the A. F. & A. M. lodges, and he was township treasurer two years.

Mr. Truax was married at Oakfield, Wisconsin, on February 14, 1900, to Gertrude Mihills. Mr. and Mrs. Truax are the parents of the following five children: Norris, Merrill, Charles, Donald and Samuel.

DAVID H. EVANS (1878). One of the best known men of Lyon county and a man who has played a most active part in the affairs of his city and county is David H. Evans, a hardware merchant of Tracy. He is interested in many business enterprises in his home town and in the state at large and he has taken an active and leading part in political affairs. Mr. Evans has resided in Tracy continuously since 1878.

At Utica, New York, on the first day of November, 1852, the subject of this biography was born. He came to Minnesota in territorial days with his parents, the trip being made by way of the Mississippi river and ox team. It was when David was only five years of age, in 1857, that the family made settlement in the little hamlet of South Bend (since removed from the map), three miles west of Mankato. There his father opened a blacksmith shop and there the family resided for the next fifteen years.

The community at that time boasted no educational advantages and young Evans received little book learning. During the winter months he helped his father with the work in the shop and during the summer seasons he helped clear the timber from the eighty-acre tract that the elder Evans owned. At the age of sixteen years David H. Evans left home and began work in a hardware store at Mankato, and in that business he has ever since been engaged. He lived in Mankato until 1878 and since that date has been a resident of Tracy.

The date of his arrival to Tracy was May 3, 1878, and he is now the senior business man of the city. At the time of his arrival Tracy had a population of only about 150 people and he established the second hardware store in the village, the first having been founded by David Stafford. The first five years Mr. Evans' business was conducted in a building on South Street and then he moved to his present location, erecting the two-story 44x100 feet building at that time. He carries a complete line of shelf and heavy hardware and implements. He is also engaged in the grain business, having bought the Neil Currie elevator in an early day and having built an addition to it in 1893.

In many other lines of business is Mr. Evans interested. He was one of the incorporators of the Tracy Mill Company, which

was established in 1890 and which was later destroyed by fire. He was one of the incorporators of the Citizens State Bank and is a director of that institution. He is vice president of the Houston Pen Company and president of the Tracy Cement and Tile Company.

Mr. Evans was one of the organizers of the Retail Hardware Dealers Mutual Insurance Company of Minneapolis and is vice president of the company. On the first day of December, 1911, this concern had in force insurance to the amount of \$15,000,000 and a reserve fund of \$306,224.81. Our subject is the president of another worthy concern, the Retail Implement Dealers Mutual Fire Insurance Company, of Owatonna, which in three years has accumulated a surplus of over \$10,000. Mr. Evans was the founder and is the president of the Minnesota Commercial Federation, which was established in 1908. The objects of the federation are to secure united effort and definite action on the part of the various retail commercial associations of Minnesota, to better conditions of retail merchandising, and by co-operation to carry out the purposes of the affiliated organizations and secure such legislation as will promote the business interests of the state.

An extensive land owner is Mr. Evans, about 3000 acres being recorded in his name. Among his holdings is the famous Captain Aldrich farm of 650 acres on Lake Shetek. That farm is a historic spot because of the fact that the thirteen people who were massacred by the Indians in 1862 in the settlement on Lake Shetek are buried on the farm, the grave occupying a beautiful spot on the lake front.

Mr. Evans is a deep student of political conditions and has decided opinions on questions of the times. He is a strong champion of the small town as against the city. He believes that centralization of business brings about a centralization of population, and that both history and experience teach that centralization of population is disastrous to civilization—that a well distributed population contributes to the general welfare and progress. "Commerce to a town, large or small," he maintains, "is what blood is to the human body; deprive a town of its commerce and it is a dead one." Therefore, he thinks, if we are to maintain

our present standard of civilization and progress it is necessary to distribute the population over the state, that the inland town must be built up and is essential as a social, religious, civic and educational center.

It is the belief of Mr. Evans that under the present system there is discrimination in railroad freight rates which gives the large centers a strangle hold on the smaller towns and that they are rapidly crushing the life out of the inland towns and rapidly destroying agricultural life. He thinks means must be found to build up the smaller towns and has given the matter deep thought and advocated these principles. He was a warm supporter of the Cashman bill, which met defeat in the last Legislature.

In politics Mr. Evans has taken an active part and is a prominent Democrat. He was the nominee of his party for congress against James T. McCleary in 1898 and has been a candidate for the Legislature. He was a delegate to the national convention that nominated Alton B. Parker for the presidency and in 1906 was made the nominee of the Democrats for state treasurer. He served a term as a member of the State Reformatory Board at St. Cloud, receiving the appointment from Governor Lind. He served as mayor of Tracy two terms and for ten years was a member of the Board of Education, serving part of the time with John Lind, who was then a resident of Tracy and later became governor of the state. Mr. Evans is a member of the Odd Fellows and Knights of Pythias lodges.

The subject of this review was married at Denver, Colorado, February 22, 1880, to Mary A. Evans. She was born at Berlin, Wisconsin, February 17, 1858, the daughter of William J. and Hannah (Roland) Evans. Mr. and Mrs. Evans have six children: David Tracy, of Omaha, Nebraska; Hannah Vaughn (Mrs. John F. Lehman), of Watertown, South Dakota; William Henry, who assists his father in the store; Mary Winnifred, a student in the State University; Theodosia, a student of the Tracy High School; and Dianessa Bryan, also a student in the Tracy High School.

The parents of David H. Evans were David D. and Eleanor (Vaughn) Evans, natives of Wales. The father came to the United States when two years old in 1828

and the mother in 1844. They were married in Utica, New York, and in the fifties settled near Mankato. The father still resides in that city at the age of eighty-six years; the mother died there in 1882. Six children of their family are living, as follows: David H., John M., of Osseo, Minnesota; Maurice V., of Minneapolis; Joseph, of Hamilton, Canada; Mrs. Hattie J. Hill, of Mankato; Louis R., who is chief engineer on a steamer plying between San Francisco and China.

Mr. Evans witnessed the hanging of the thirty-eight Indians at Mankato after the close of the Sioux War. During the famous outbreak his father was a second lieutenant of the state militia.

WILLIAM S. BALDWIN (1872) is postmaster of Taunton, the proprietor of a flour and feed store and a stock dealer. He has resided in Minnesota all his life and is among the early settlers of Lyon county, having first come here when less than twelve years of age.

William Baldwin was born near Troy, Winona county, Minnesota, August 12, 1860. His parents were Solomon and Ellen (Canfield) Baldwin, natives, respectively, of Pennsylvania and New York State. They were pioneer residents of Winona county and died there when our subject was a child. There are four children in the family: Lucy Robinson, of St. Charles, Minnesota; William S., of this biography; Fred, of Langdon, North Dakota; and George, of Winona.

The year of arrival to Lyon county was 1872, when William Baldwin was a lad eleven years of age. The railroad which was then building toward Lyon county—the Winona & St. Peter—had only reached Sleepy Eye, and the trip was made in a covered wagon from Chatfield. The trip was made with the family of Henry P. Gibbs and for three years our subject lived with that family on the homestead on section 14, Fairview township. Then Mr. Gibbs lost his life in one of the winter storms and young Baldwin went to live with the Castor family, over the line in Redwood county. The next winter he attended school in Marshall and from that time until 1893 he lived in and in the vicinity of the county seat.

During that period Mr. Baldwin worked at

various occupations. He was street commissioner of Marshall one year, operated a feed barn for some time, and engaged in farming land for Marshall residents. In 1893 Mr. Baldwin rented land from his father-in-law near Minneota, farmed it three years, and has ever since then resided in Taunton. He worked at the carpenter's trade and general work until he was appointed postmaster on December 24, 1907. Since then he has conducted a flour and feed store and engaged in the stock business as well as care for the postoffice. Before the incorporation of Taunton Mr. Baldwin served as justice of the peace of Eidsvold township and he has served several terms as a member of the Taunton Village Council. He is a member of the M. W. A. lodge.

Mr. Baldwin was married at Minneota October 1, 1892, to Bessie Walsh, a native of Springfield, Illinois. To this union two children, Leo and Elenor, were born. Mrs. Baldwin died December 7, 1896. The second marriage of our subject occurred at Ghent on January 18, 1900, when he wedded Annie Helvig, a native of Chicago. George, Margaret and Lester are their children.

GUSTAV J. GOLTZ (1875), owner of one of the finest half sections in Lyon county, the northwest quarter of section 10 and the northeast quarter of section 9, Rock Lake township, is one of its most successful farmers and stock raisers. His stock sales each year amount to about \$1,500. Mr. Goltz is also a stockholder in the Farmers Elevator Company of Balaton.

John and Wilhelmina (Abel) Goltz, parents of our subject, came to America from Germany in 1875 and settled in Owatonna, Minnesota. The father worked out that summer and filed on a homestead in Rock Lake township, the southwest quarter of section 2, where the family went to live in the fall. That was the family's home the next thirty-four years. They came upon hard times during the grasshopper years and contended with other discouragements of the early days until good crops, market facilities, the county's growth, and their years of hard work eventually brought prosperity. They have led a retired life in Balaton since 1909.

Gustav was born in Germany December

15, 1871, and came to this country with his parents. Having finished his education at the age of twenty years he worked on the home farm one year, after which he worked out at various places in the state during the next six years. In the spring of 1899 Gustav returned to Lyon county, purchased the northwest quarter of section 10, Rock Lake, from his father, and has been farming the place since that time. In March, 1911, he bought the adjoining quarter on section 9 and has brought the half section to a fine state of cultivation.

Our subject is a member of the German Lutheran church. He was married in the township November 11, 1908, to Mary Abel, a native of Germany. Mrs. Goltz was born October 24, 1880, and her mother, Mrs. Fred Abel, still lives in the old country. The father is dead. Mr. Goltz has the following sisters and brothers living: Minnie (Mrs. W. G. Myers) and Elsie, of Worthington; Emma (Mrs. Julius Frost) and Sophia (Mrs. Max Bollman), of California; Annie (Mrs. F. J. Brening) and Gertrude (Mrs. George Snow), of Balaton; Otto, of Warren, Minnesota; August, of Madelia; Robert, of Canada; Ray and Walter, of Montana; and Erwin, of Rock Lake township.

OLE O. RUNHOLT (1878) is one of the early settlers of Lucas township and is the owner of 160 acres of land on the south half of section 17.

Our subject was born in Christiania, Norway, October 12, 1853, and is a son of Ole and Carrie (Slette) Monson. The boy grew to manhood in his native country and after completing his schooling he worked in the mines with his father. In 1878 Ole and his brother Aasten came to America, and during the first year of their residence in the new country lived on the farm of Christopher Peterson in Lucas township. The following year Ole bought forty acres of school land on section 16, built a small house, and continued to make his home there the next five or six years. In 1879 the boy's parents came from Norway and made their home with him.

In the fall of 1884 our subject married and then sold his farm to his brother and returned to Norway. There he remained one and one-half years. Returning to America,

he took up farm work and worked on the railroad for a time in North Dakota. Shortly after coming back to this country, his wife died at her father's home in Norway, where Ole had left his family until he should find a good location in Lyon county. He was obliged to return once more to the Fatherland to get his two children, and after a stay of one year and a half our subject again made the long trip.

Upon again taking up his residence in Lyon county, Mr. Runholt spent seven years working out at farm labor. He then moved to the east half of the southwest quarter of section 17, Lucas township, where his parents lived, and took charge of the place, they being too old for the active care of the farm. His father is now dead and the mother is still living on the farm with her son. Ole has added eighty acres to the farm and is doing well with his farming.

The subject of this sketch was married a second time, to Annie Grandhagen on January 18, 1896. She was born in Norway January 18, 1874, and is a daughter of John and Martha Grandhagen. The children of his second marriage are Oscar, Cora O., Joseph R. and Laurence. Mr. Runholt has two children by his first marriage, Clara M. and Rudolph (deceased).

The Runholts are members of the Norwegian Lutheran church. Mr. Runholt is a member of the school board of district No. 89.

S. H. ADAMS (1873). When S. H. Adams came to Marshall in 1873 he reports that there were only eleven houses in the town. He has seen the village grow from those proportions into the city of today, having lived in the village ever since, with the exception of a few years. During nearly all this time he has been engaged in the tinning business, and he is now the senior member of the firm of S. H. Adams & Son, plumbers, steamfitters and sheet metal workers.

Mr. Adams was the only son of Harrison S. and Betsey T. (Ladd) Adams and he was born at Cambridge, New York, on September 1, 1853. His father, a native of Connecticut, came to Lyon county in 1873 and died in November, 1903, at the age of seventy years. His mother was born in New

Hampshire and died in Marshall May 1, 1874.

At the age of four years S. H. Adams accompanied his parents from Cambridge, New York, to Rutland, Vermont, and a little later to Springfield, Vermont, where the family resided until he was thirteen years of age. Then the family home was made in Trempealeau, Wisconsin. In that place young Adams attended school and grew to manhood. He came to Marshall in September, 1873, and the day following his arrival began work in the hardware store of J. P. Watson and there learned the tinner's trade. He worked for Mr. Watson ten years and for R. M. Addison eight years and then moved to Cottonwood and went into business with Thomas McKinley.

Eight years later Mr. Adams returned to Marshall and for the next five years was again employed by J. P. Watson. He then moved to Provo, Utah, where he remained four years. Returning to Marshall in April, 1909, he formed the company known as S. H. Adams & Son with his son, Lloyd E., as partner.

For two years the firm did business in Mr. Watson's hardware store, but the growth of the business demanded larger quarters and in April, 1911, a move was made to the present location in the Josh Goodwin building. The firm engages in plumbing, steam, hot water and hot air heating, ventilating and cornice work and does repairing. It is the only exclusive plumbing and tinning establishment in Marshall.

Mr. Adams has been a Mason since 1875, having been the first one admitted to membership after the local lodge secured its charter, and he was the first worthy patron of the Eastern Star lodge in Marshall. He is also a member of the A. O. U. W. lodge.

In Trempealeau, Wisconsin, on April 7, 1877, Mr. Adams was married to Ida H. Smith, a native of Illinois. They have three boys, as follows: Archer L., who was born February 15, 1878, married Mary Wilson, and is now foreman of the ventilating department of the H. Kelley Company plant (plumbers), Minneapolis; Lloyd E., who was born April 26, 1881, married Nellie Spaulding, and is now in business with his father at Marshall; Harry, who was born January 16, 1894, and is employed by the firm as bookkeeper.

EUGENE A. DICKERMAN (1877), of Lake Marshall township, has resided in Lyon county for the past thirty-five years. He came here penniless in 1877 and today is one of the most prosperous and widely known men in Lyon county. Mr. Dickerman is a native of Vermont, where he was born November 29, 1847. He is a son of Lemuell and Irene (Hillyard) Dickerman. The father was engaged in farming and rock laying in Vermont, where he died when Eugene was only nine years of age. The mother lived several years after the father's death.

The subject of this review attended school at Casson Bridge Academy during the winter months until seventeen years\* of age. He then stayed at home with his mother until he had passed his nineteenth year, when he went to New York and worked on the Plattsburg & White Hall railroad for several months. Returning to Vermont, he remained a few weeks and then came to Minnesota and located in Olmsted county, where he resided until 1877, the year he came to Lyon county. Mr. Dickerman first located on the northeast quarter of section 24, Lake Marshall township, but later sold that and moved to the farm he now owns and operates, the east half of the northwest quarter of section 24.

Mr. Dickerman has been a school officer of district No. 6 almost continuously since 1880, and he holds membership in the Masonic lodge of Marshall. He has stock in the Lake Marshall Rural Telephone Company and in the M. W. Savage Stock Food Company of Minneapolis. Mr. Dickerman is a veteran of the Civil War, serving in Company G, Fourth Vermont Infantry, known as the Home Guards.

In 1874 Mr. Dickerman was married to Maribah Templeton, a daughter of Matthew and Nancy (Frost) Templeton and the oldest of a family of six children. Mr. and Mrs. Dickerman are the parents of the following children: Luella, born September 4, 1875; Leora, born January 6, 1877; Lillian, born March 11, 1879; Leona, born December 19, 1881; Joseph, born March 27, 1886.

EPHRAIM SKYHAWK (1877), deceased, was the first business man in Russell and for several years was the only storekeeper of the town. He was well known throughout

the county and many were the friends who grieved over his death.

Mr. Skyhawk was born near Valparaiso, Indiana, April 19, 1853. When he was three years of age he came to Minnesota with his parents, and the family located in Mower county. The next twenty-one years of the lad's life were spent on the farm in that county and he was there educated and brought up amidst the environments of farm life. It was in the spring of 1877 that the young man came to Lyon county and located on a farm in Amiret, where he lived until 1885. That year he became a citizen of Marshall and engaged in the meat business with Joseph Pierard.

Four years later our subject went to Russell, then just being founded, and opened the first store. He conducted a general mercantile business and remained an active business man of the village until failing health caused him to turn over the conduct of his enterprise to his son, Lewis D., in the summer of 1908. Mr. Skyhawk failed rapidly and died at his home in Russell March 18, 1910. Mr. Skyhawk was married October 25, 1886, to Rosa B. Hanks, of Amiret, and at his death left a widow and four children. The children's names are Lewis D., Belle, Frank and Mona.

Ephraim Skyhawk was a type of the bluff and hearty pioneer of the county's earliest days—one of those courageous men who had the fortitude to endure the privations of frontier life, the ability and disposition to conquer, and one whose happy disposition made him popular among his associates. He was a prominent Mason, being a member of Coteau Lodge of Russell, of Marshall Chapter, R. A. M., and of Marshall Commandery of the Knights Templar.

OLE AMUNDSON (1874) has lived in Eidsvold township all his life—thirty-eight years. His parents, Anund and Kari (Heggen) Amundson, were among the earliest settlers of the precinct. They came to the United States from Norway in the spring of 1869, lived in Iowa, later in Dodge county, Minnesota, came to Lyon county in the spring of 1874, and took as a homestead claim the south half of the southwest quarter of section 24, Eidsvold township.

Ole was born on the homestead November

28, 1874, and he resided with his parents until 1902. Then he was married and started farming for himself on the 120-acre farm on section 9 that he had bought several years before. His land is the south half of the northwest quarter and the southwest quarter of the northeast quarter of the section. Mr. Amundson is clerk of school district No. 79 and he served as township treasurer thirteen years. He is a member of the Norwegian Lutheran church.

Helga Esping, born in Lyon county August 8, 1878, became the wife of Mr. Amundson November 20, 1902, the ceremony having been performed in Minneota. Her parents, Ole H. and Helga (Nelson) Esping, were born in Norway and were early settlers of Lyon county. The mother died in 1904; the father still lives in Eidsvold township.

Mr. and Mrs. Amundson have the following named five children: Hilda C., born August 25, 1903; Arthur O., born April 25, 1905; Earl J., born January 18, 1907; Newel M., born October 23, 1908; George A., born March 9, 1911.

HENRY MEEHL (1878), owner of the northwest quarter and the north half of the northeast quarter of section 11, Clifton township, is one of the township's prosperous farmers.

Mr. Meehl was born in Sullivan county, Pennsylvania, December 15, 1856, and at the age of six years moved to Rice county, Minnesota, with his parents, where the father took a homestead. Henry grew up on the farm in Rice county and when twenty-two years of age started out for himself. He came to Lyon county in 1878 and bought the southwest quarter of section 3 of the township in which he now resides. That place he farmed until 1900, when he sold out and bought his present farm. There he has since resided. He has improved the place and made it one of the finest farms in the region. Mr. Meehl raises a great deal of stock.

The subject of this sketch has been active in the township's affairs. He was a member of the Township Board several years and clerk for seventeen years. He was also township assessor four years and was for fifteen years treasurer of school district No. 42. Mr. Meehl is a shareholder and president

of the Farmers Elevator Company of Milroy. He is a member of the A. O. U. W. lodge.

Henry Meehl was married in Marshall to Etta McElwee, the wedding occurring December 17, 1884. His wife was born in Indiana and died April 6, 1891. To this union the following children were born: Harry E., born September 25, 1885; Mae E., born May 2, 1887; and Eve E., born August 27, 1889.

Agnes Castle became the wife of our subject March 9, 1893. She was a native of Illinois, and by her marriage to Mr. Meehl she became the mother of one child, Viola, born August 24, 1894. Mrs. Meehl was born November 29, 1868, and died April 2, 1896.

Mr. Meehl was married a third time, to Mrs. Bessie Graham, a native of Scranton, Pennsylvania. The wedding occurred May 30, 1901. She is a daughter of Eugene and Lydia (Brown) Jaques, natives of Pennsylvania. Her father is dead; her mother lives in New York State. Mrs. Meehl was born June 10, 1876. She and Mr. Meehl are the parents of six children, named Clyde E., Persey M., Dorothy, Ines, Gladys and Marvin.

Mr. Meehl's parents were Jacob and Henrietta (Peter) Meehl, natives of Germany. They came to America in 1851 and settled in Pennsylvania, where they pursued the occupation of farmers and where they resided until coming to Minnesota.

WARREN S. EASTMAN (1870) was the first veterinarian to locate in Marshall and has been practising his profession there for thirty-three years. He makes his headquarters at the City Drug Store.

Warren Eastman's father, T. S. Eastman, was born in Salisbury, New Hampshire, in 1815 and was married to Sarah Fifield, a native of Hill, of the same state. T. S. Eastman and wife came to Lyon county in 1869 and filed on the southeast quarter of section 12, Lynd township, as a homestead, locating on the place in the fall with a son Isaac V. T. S. Eastman was one of the organizers of the county, and the organization meeting was held in A. W. Muzzy's house in Lynd. Mr. Eastman was one of the county's first commissioners and was prominent in its early history. He died in 1880 and his wife in 1892.

The subject of this sketch was born at

Andover, New Hampshire, February 22, 1852. In 1864 the family moved to Wabasha county, Minnesota, and a year later he was sent East to school, attending the Old New York School's medical department in New York City. After a vacation of several months spent with his parents in Minnesota, Warren returned to New York and took the veterinary course in the college. In 1872 he returned to Minnesota. At that time an epidemic of epizootic was creating havoc among horses from coast to coast and the young veterinarian found plenty of employment.

Young Eastman remained on the home farm six years, practising his profession and helping on the farm. In 1879 he moved to Marshall, where he has since practised. In 1888 he bought the drug business of Shead & Richardson and conducted a drug store five years on the site of A. J. Gag's present drug store. He kept up his professional work during that time.

July 9, 1876, Warren S. Eastman married Emma Baldwin, a native of Warren, Warren county, Pennsylvania. Her family located in Lyon county in an early day. Mr. and Mrs. Eastman had one daughter, who died in March, 1893, aged fifteen years. An adopted daughter, Blanche, died November 9, 1910, aged nineteen years.

Isaac V. Eastman, the only other child of T. S. and Sarah (Fifield) Eastman, died in 1904. He had lived on the Eastman homestead since coming to Lyon county with his father in 1869, and was conducting the farm, which he had bought from his father, at the time of his death. His widow and two daughters reside in Marshall.

WILLIAM H. GLOTFELTER (1874), owner of the northwest quarter of section 14, Rock Lake township, is the son of George A. and Emily A. (Weymouth) Glotfelter and was born in Vermont August 5, 1861. The father is dead and the mother is living with William on the farm. William has two brothers living, George T., a mail carrier in Minneapolis, and Charles W., of Waterville, Minnesota, president of the Minnesota State Fair Board.

The parents of William Glotfelter were pioneers of Lyon county, coming here in the spring of 1874 and locating in Rock Lake

township, where the father had taken a homestead. The family before coming to Lyon county had spent some time in Illinois and in Owatonna, Minnesota. William's early education was received in Illinois, and he later attended school in Owatonna and in the Rock Lake district, finishing his scholastic work at the age of twenty years.

In 1879 George A. Glotfelter died and his son William took up the management of the home farm after his schooling was completed. He takes charge of additional land besides the old homestead, farms in all 216 acres, and raises stock. William has had care of the place during the last thirty years, with the exception of four years spent in St. Paul. Mr. Glotfelter has been clerk of school district No. 92 since 1892. He is a member of the M. W. A. lodge of Balaton.

Our subject's parents, among the early pioneers in the county, experienced the interesting and strenuous times of early days. Neighboring settlers were few and widely scattered. The winters were long and bitter, and younger residents do not realize the immense snowfall which was characteristic of many winters of thirty years ago. There were several years of grasshopper scourge. During those years George Glotfelter went to Owatonna and worked at the trade of blacksmith in the winter to keep up family expenses at home. While he was gone the family sometimes ran out of flour and some member would drive eighty miles to New Ulm to bring back supplies. Johnny-cake and turnips formed the principal diet in the settlers' homes during such periods.

The elder Glotfelter conducted a blacksmith shop on his farm and did work for the neighboring farmers, who often came with their work from miles around, and while Mr. Glotfelter did their blacksmithing the customers took his place in the field.

ARNI B. GISLASON (1879) is a member of the Minneota law firm of Gislason & Gislason, which was formed in January, 1911. He is a native of Iceland and was born August 6, 1877, a son of Bjorn and Adalborg (Johnsson) Gislason, both natives of the northland.

When two years of age Arpi accompanied his parents to Lyon county, the family locating on section 11, Westerheim township.

There Arni grew up and received his early education. After graduating from the Marshall High School, he moved to Minneota in 1898 and engaged in the hardware business three years with his brother, Walter, under the firm name of Gislason Brothers. He then took a one year academic course and spent two years studying law at the University of Minnesota. In 1902 he entered the Globe Land & Loan Company and has since been identified with that institution as secretary and treasurer. In February, 1911, he was admitted to the bar and became a member of the law firm above mentioned at Minneota.

Mr. Gislason is a member of the Masonic, Maccabee and M. W. A. lodges. He is clerk of the Board of Education of Minneota and was a member of the Village Council and village recorder for several terms.

On September 30, 1906, our subject was married to Cora S. Eastman, a native of Yellow Medicine county, Minnesota. They are the parents of three children: Arlon B., Anna G. and a baby boy.

ANDERS E. RYE (1878) is a pioneer settler of Nordland township and a man who has taken a prominent part in the affairs of his precinct. He is the owner of a half of section 34 and is rated among the substantial men of western Lyon county. When he came to the county thirty-four years ago he was without means and his present position has been gained by his own unaided efforts.

In Vallers, Norway, on May 6, 1858, Anders E. Rye was born, a son of Esten and Marit (Ranum) Rye. He was given an education in his native land and at the age of twenty years, in 1878, he severed home ties and came alone to America. His home has ever since that time been in Lyon county. For two years he worked on the railroad and in 1880 he took as a pre-emption claim the southwest quarter of section 34, Nordland township.

Not having the means with which to improve the claim, Anders continued working out and turned the management of his claim over to his father, who had come from the old country in 1879. Later he moved to the farm and has since had his home there. He has prospered and in 1890 he added to his

holdings by the purchase of the northeast quarter of section 34. The farm is well improved and Mr. Rye has a fine home. He engages in stock raising and makes a specialty of Poland China hogs. He has stock in the Farmers Elevator Company of Minneota. For twenty years he served as a member of the Nordland Township Board of Supervisors and for several years he was a member of the school board of his district. Mr. Rye and his family are members of the Norwegian Lutheran church.

Sarah Dovre became the wife of Mr. Rye at Canby on July 14, 1888. She was born in Vallers, Norway, December 2, 1866, a daughter of Ole and Ragnild Dovre, both of whom died in the old country. Mr. and Mrs. Rye have nine children, as follows: Maria O., Esten, Otto, Alma, Clara, Ragnild, Agnes and Lillian, twins; and Sophia.

SIGFINN GOODMUND (1878) is a farmer and land owner of Lyons township who has spent nearly his entire life in Lyon and Lincoln counties. He is the owner of the northwest quarter of section 22 and forty acres on section 15.

Mr. Goodmund was born in Iceland May 1, 1870, the son of Gudmund and Ingeborg (Torkuldson) Asmondson. When eight years old, in 1878, he came to America with his parents and direct to Lyon county. The family spent the following winter near Minneota and the next spring took a homestead on section 6, Lake Stay township, Lincoln county. On that farm our subject grew to manhood, and in the nearby district school he received his education. He worked for a number of years, but when he reached his majority, in 1891, he bought his farm in Lyons township and has lived there ever since.

Our subject raises lots of stock in addition to his general farming. He owns stock in the Farmers Elevator Company of Russell and for five years has served as a director of school district No. 10. He is a member of the Workmen lodge.

In Lyons township, on June 8, 1892, Mr. Goodmund was united in marriage to May Fifield. She was born in Wabasha county, Minnesota, April 25, 1870, and is the daughter of Ira and Emma (Rueber) Fifield, natives, respectively, of New Hampshire and

New York. Mr. and Mrs. Goodmund have three children, as follows: Ira S., born April 11, 1893; Oscar J., born December 24, 1894; Carrie M., born March 30, 1896.

C. F. CASE (1874) is one of the pioneer residents of Lyon county and a highly respected citizen of Marshall. He is an ex-receiver of the United States Land Office and a pioneer journalist of Southwestern Minnesota. He has taken an active part in the development of his home city and has erected several of its business blocks. He erected the Messenger Block as agent and put up and owns the brick store building adjoining the opera house on the west and the Case Block, in which the Reporter has its home. He also owns the opera house building at Ivanhoe, Minnesota, and farm land in Red Lake county.

The subject of this biography was born in South Manchester, Connecticut, November 1, 1839. When he was about fifteen years of age he accompanied his parents to Waterloo, Iowa, where his parents died soon after, throwing him upon his own resources. After securing a high school education, he taught school three years and then for one year was a student in Beloit (Wisconsin) College. Then the Civil War began, and young Case left college to fight for his country. He served as an enlisted man in Company B, of the Fortieth Wisconsin Infantry. He was discharged from the army in 1864 and became a student at the University of Michigan, from which he was graduated with the class of 1868.

Shortly after his graduation, Mr. Case bought the Clarksville, Iowa, Star and entered upon a journalistic career. He published the Star five years and then spent one year in California. Returning to Iowa, he edited the Waverly Republican two years. He disposed of that paper in 1874 and in December of that year arrived in Marshall. He bought of J. C. Ervin the Prairie Schooner, which had been founded by Mr. Ervin in 1873 and was the first paper published in the county. Mr. Case changed the name of the journal to Marshall Messenger and presided over its destinies until 1882, when he sold the paper to C. C. Whitney. Five years later Mr. Case founded the Lyon County Reporter and edited the paper until

1899, when he turned the management over to his son Frank Case.

Just before retiring from the newspaper business Mr. Case was made receiver of the United States Land Office, which was then located at Marshall, and served five years. Thereafter he engaged in the mercantile business at Herman, Minnesota, until the spring of 1910, when he again became a resident of Marshall. Mr. Case served as mayor of Marshall in 1884 and for several years was president of the Marshall Library Association. He is a member of D. F. Markham Post, G. A. R.

The marriage of Mr. Case to Fannie Waller occurred at Shellsburg, Iowa, November 6, 1872. Mrs. Case is a native of Illinois. They have three children, Frank W., Fred H. and Dorothy A.

IVER NELSON (1876) is the owner and manager of a 209-acre farm on section 2, Lucas township. He has made his home on that farm thirty-six years, having moved there with his parents when two and one-half years of age. He has made a success of farming and stock raising and is one of the influential men of his precinct.

His parents were pioneers of Minnesota and of Lyon county. Iver Nelson, the father, was born in Norway, came to America in 1845, and shortly afterward enlisted in the army and fought in the war with Mexico. He served five years in the army and during the late forties was stationed at Fort Snelling, Minnesota. Later Mr. Nelson was a resident of Wisconsin and later still of Fillmore county, Minnesota. He located in Yellow Medicine county in an early day, and in the spring of 1876 he came with his family to Lyon county, purchased a homestead right to the farm now conducted by his son in Lucas township, and resided there until his death in 1895 at the age of eighty years. Aase (Frygne) Nelson, our subject's mother, was also born in Norway; she died in Lyon county in 1889.

Besides our subject there are six other children in the Nelson family, as follows: Nicholas, of Ada, Minnesota; Thomas, of Williams county, North Dakota; Henry, of Lucas township; Martha (Mrs. Thomas Joel), of Canada; Anna (Mrs. Erick Roti), of Val-

lers township; and Caroline (Mrs. John Prestegaard), of Yellow Medicine county.

Iver Nelson of this review was born in Yellow Medicine county October 2, 1873. He was brought with the family to Lyon county in 1876 and has ever since lived on the farm in Lucas township. He attended the district school until eighteen years of age and then took a one-term course in Willmar Seminary. He worked for his father until he attained his majority and in the fall of 1894 assumed control of the farm, of which he later became the owner.

For a number of years Mr. Nelson was a member of the Lucas Township Board of Supervisors, part of the time being chairman, has been township treasurer the past three years, has been clerk of school district No. 19 for the past twelve years, and was road overseer one year. He is a member of Silo Norwegian Lutheran Church of Cottonwood.

Iver Nelson was married in Yellow Medicine county December 1, 1897, to Mary Cole. His wife is a native of Columbia county, Wisconsin, and was born January 9, 1872. Her parents, Lars and Johanna (Dahl) Cole, were pioneer settlers of Yellow Medicine county. The father still lives in that county, at the age of seventy-eight years; the mother died in 1893.

Six children have been born to Iver Nelson and his wife, their names and dates of births being as follows: Lloyd Ingren, born November 13, 1898; Arthur Joseph (deceased), born November 10, 1900; Herbert Ray, born November 24, 1902; Wilbur Vermand, born June 2, 1905; Morris Norman, born November 10, 1907; Kenneth Joseph, born February 23, 1910.

ANTON LORANZ (1874) is a homesteader and early settler of Lyon county. He owns 360 acres of land in Sodus township and he and his sons farm the entire tract.

Mr. Loranz was born in Germany in September, 1839, and he lived in the Fatherland until 1871. Coming to America that year, he spent the next three years in Wisconsin, working as a farm laborer and on the railroad. He came to Lyon county in 1874 and took as a homestead claim the southwest quarter of section 26, Sodus township, and on that place he has ever since lived. He added his other land later by purchase.

The subject of this biography was married in Sodus township in 1883 to Amelia Olson. She was born in Sweden September 16, 1848, the daughter of Joahn and Anna M. Olson. She came to America with the family in 1881 and settled in Sodus township. Four children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Loranz, named as follows: Daniel, born March 21, 1884; John, born August 25, 1885; James, born June 4, 1892; Annie M., born February 8, 1889.

JOHN L. CRAIG (1872). On the south-east quarter of section 14, Monroe township, adjoining the city of Tracy, stands a little 12x14 hut, weather-beaten and worn but still enduring after forty years. Also on the place stands a modern and commodious residence which is in accord with the well-kept up-to-date farm of the owner. Attending personally to the management of the place is its owner, John L. Craig, veteran of the Civil War and one of the early settlers of this county, who only a few months ago celebrated his seventy-sixth birthday.

There was no Tracy when Mr. Craig came to the county in the spring of 1872 and homesteaded the quarter on which he now resides and there was no railroad running so far west at that time. The lumber for the little house which still stands on the farm was hauled from Marshall and this small hut, built from rough boards, was Mr. Craig's home for the next three years. In the fall of 1872 the railroad was built. Until 1875 there was no station, the trains stopping a mile east of the present townsite at a place called Shetek Crossing. In 1875 and for a year after, trains used the warehouse of Neil Currie for a station, and Mr. Craig was the first station agent. The town was then called Big Bend. When he first came to the county Mr. Craig's only neighbors were Ed. Healy and David Stafford, who lived on Lake Sigel, two miles south, and Ed. Starr, whose homestead was a mile east. These were all, except a few families on the Cottonwood river.

Those early days were strenuous ones for the pioneers. When the grasshoppers were destroying the crops in Southwestern Minnesota in the seventies Mr. Craig went to Olmsted county and worked to support his family, while they remained in Lyon county on

the homestead. During the first years of Tracy's history Mr. Craig started the first livery stable, in 1877. Before the railroads entered Pipestone Mr. Craig had the contract for carrying the mails from Tracy to Flandreau, South Dakota. His son John made the trips and a relief team was kept at Haycock Prairie, near Pipestone. After running the livery stable for a few years Mr. Craig sold out and took up farm work. He had always made his home on the farm, even when he was at work in the village.

Our subject was born in Eymouth, Scotland, January 10, 1836, and in 1854 he came to the United States and first settled in Waukesha county, Wisconsin, where he farmed for United States Senator I. P. Walker. Working there until the fall of 1861, he moved to Olmsted county, Minnesota, and continued farming until he enlisted in 1864. He served actively in the field until the battle of Guntown, Mississippi, where he was taken prisoner, and thereafter he was confined in prison until the close of the war. Returning to his Olmsted county home, Mr. Craig took up the management of the farm and in 1872 came West and took the homestead where he has since lived.

On August 12, 1858, in the town of Palmyra, Wisconsin, John L. Craig was married to Jeffery Craig, a native of her husband's old home in Scotland. Mrs. Craig was a helping partner through the stern years of frontier life. There are seven children living, Oliver L., John A., Douglas W., Arthur L., Carrie M., Cora B. and Jennie J. One child, Lillie D., is deceased.

Mr. Craig was a charter member of Joe Hooker Post No. 15, G. A. R., and was one of its early commanders and its first adjutant.

THORE K. THOMPSON (1877), a prosperous farmer of Westerheim township, was born in Vallers, Norway, April 22, 1859, and is a son of Knut and Annie (Olson) Thompson.

When he was nine years of age Thore came to America with his parents and the family settled in Dane county, Wisconsin. There they remained until 1877, when they moved to Lyon county and took a homestead on the northwest quarter of section 2, Westerheim township. There our subject grew to

manhood, received his education, and assisted his father with the farm work. In 1882 the boy started farming for himself on rented land, and two years later he bought the southeast quarter of section 1. He still owns and farms that land and also is the owner of two other quarters in the same township. The farm in Westerheim is one of the best improved pieces of land in the township. Mr. Thompson is building a new barn which will be of 74x50 feet dimensions and will be one of the largest buildings in the vicinity. Our subject is paying much attention to stock raising and raises the Poland China breed of hogs for market shipment.

The marriage of our subject to Isabel Iverson occurred in the township May 17, 1888. She is the daughter of Ole and Annie (Gunbjonson) Iverson, natives of Norway, and was born in Minnesota May 5, 1863. By her marriage to Mr. Thompson she became the mother of seven children, as follows: Knut A., born May 14, 1889; Annie O., born December 21, 1891; Mary O., born July 23, 1893; Olaf A., born January 20, 1896; Rosane L., born September 4, 1900; and Marvin T. and May I., twins, born February 9, 1903.

Mr. Thompson has been prominent in township affairs, having served on the town board twenty years, as chairman of the Board of Supervisors, as clerk of the school district eighteen years, and as county commissioner four years. He owns shares in the Farmers Elevator Company of Cottonwood, and he and his wife are members of the Norwegian Lutheran church.

**NELS ANDERSON (1877).** One of the old and highly respected residents of Coon Creek township is Nels Anderson, who has lived in Lyon county for the past thirty-five years. He is a native of Jemtland, Sweden, and was born February 1, 1838, a son of Anders Jonson. Both his parents are deceased.

Nels received his schooling in the land of his birth and was a student until sixteen years of age. He then assisted his father with the work on the farm until he was twenty-one years of age. For the next ten years he worked out at farm labor and in the pineries.

In 1869 Mr. Anderson immigrated to the United States, locating in Winona county, Minnesota. There he purchased land, which

he later sold, and in 1877 he moved to Lyon county. He homesteaded the north half of the southwest quarter of section 2, Coon Creek township. In 1889 he purchased sixty acres on section 3, of the same township, and in 1892 purchased 160 acres on section 2, making him the owner of 300 acres of fine land.

Our subject is a member of the Swedish Lutheran church. He is a very successful farmer and stock raiser. His son, John, now has charge of the place.

Magdalena Erickson became the wife of Mr. Anderson early in 1869. She is the daughter of Erick and Christina (Halvorson) Erickson, both deceased, and was born March 26, 1843, in Jemtland, Sweden. She has three brothers and two sisters: Carrie (Mrs. Martin Hammerberg), of Barron county, Wisconsin; Christine (Mrs. Christine Skold), Erick Erickson, Halvor Erickson and Nels Erickson, all of Jemtland, Sweden. Mr. and Mrs. Anderson are the parents of the following named three children: Andrew, born October 17, 1869; Christine, born September 16, 1871, died in August, 1872; John, born November 19, 1874. Andrew and John both reside in Coon Creek township.

**EDWIN F. WHITING (1882)**, member of the Minnesota Legislature, representing the seventeenth district, comprising the counties of Lyon, Lincoln and Yellow Medicine, is the editor and proprietor of the Balaton Press-Tribune and an implement dealer of that village. He has lived in Lyon county thirty years and has taken a prominent part in the affairs of his county.

Mr. Whiting is a native Minnesotan, having been born at Rochester October 10, 1861. He was educated in the Rochester schools and resided in that city until he reached his majority. He came to Lyon county in 1882 and engaged in farming in Custer township until the fall of 1901. That period of residence was punctuated occasionally by service as a traveling salesman for a year or two at a time.

In 1901 Mr. Whiting located in Balaton and bought the machinery, furniture and undertaking business of Urbane Wilhelm. Later he disposed of the furniture stock and has since dealt in machinery and attended to the undertaking business. He purchased the

Press-Tribune in March, 1910, and has since conducted that journal. Besides his other interests Mr. Whiting has farming interests. He is secretary of the Union Land and Credit Company, an incorporated firm.

During the time of his residence in Balaton Mr. Whiting has held many offices within the gift of his neighbors. He has been a member of the Village Council since 1902, the last six years as village recorder. He was clerk of the School Board three years and a member of the Board of Health ten years. In 1910 Mr. Whiting was elected a member of the Legislature on the Republican ticket and now represents his district in the state's law-making body. Our subject is a member of the Masonic and Woodmen orders.

The marriage of Mr. Whiting to Lois M. Foster occurred at Rochester, Minnesota, April 8, 1881. She is a native of Elkhorn, Wisconsin. They have five children, as follows: Vera (Mrs. O. H. Herrmann), of Oakland, California; Foster P., of Balaton; Eva (Mrs. C. E. Weeks), of Balaton; Nina B. and Leda M.

The parents of Edwin F. Whiting were E. P. and Sarah A. (Rice) Whiting, natives, respectively, of New York and Pennsylvania. They were married at Princeton, Wisconsin, and in 1857 became residents of Olmsted county, Minnesota. Mr. Whiting became a prominent man in that county and served two terms in the Legislature in the seventies. He died in Olmsted county in April, 1883. Mrs. Whiting died at the home of a son at New Richland, Minnesota, October 8, 1910. There are seven children living of the family, as follows: Homer, Frank, Edwin F., Etta (Mrs. George Struble), Casius P., Jenny (Mrs. H. A. Bates), Arthur L. The eldest child of the family, Nelson P., is deceased.

OLE E. PETERSON (1872) rents his father's farm, the northeast quarter of section 34, Custer township, land which the elder Mr. Peterson took as a homestead in 1872. Henry and Annie Peterson, parents of our subject, resided on the homestead until 1904, when they moved to Tracy, where they are now living.

It was in Dodge county, Minnesota, that Ole Peterson first saw the light of day, on December 3, 1871. The family moved to

Lyon county when Ole was a baby, and he has been a continuous resident of the county since that time. He was reared on the farm and attended school until thirteen years of age, at which time he hired out to a neighbor, herding cattle. That employment the boy followed three years; then he spent a year at farm labor and afterward ran a herd himself six years. He was an industrious young fellow and had been looking forward to the time when he should be farming for himself, so he rented the place he now conducts and has been on the place since that time. He raises cattle, horses, hogs and chickens, in addition to general farming, and is a stockholder of the Farmers Independent Elevator Company of Garvin and of the Garvin Telephone Company.

Ole Peterson and Lena Johnson were joined in the holy bonds of matrimony October 25, 1899. Mrs. Peterson is a native of Fillmore county, Minnesota, and was born March 29, 1876. She is a daughter of Hans J. and Annie (Knutson) Bredeveien, the former of whom resides in Garvin and the latter being dead. Mr. and Mrs. Peterson have one child, Arthur, born September 11, 1900.

The church affiliations of Mr. Peterson are with the Norwegian Lutheran organization of Monroe township.

EVAN C. JONES, SR. (1877) is a dealer in caskets in the village of Russell. He is a native of Wales and was born January 22, 1842. He learned the carpenter's trade and worked at it in the old country until twenty-four years of age. His parents were John and Grace (Jones) Jones, both of whom died in Wales. They were the parents of six children, as follows: Winnie (Mrs. Morris Jones), of Wales; Jennett Thomas, Jane Jones and Griffith, of Wales; Ann and Richard Jones, of Utica, New York.

Our subject came to the United States when twenty-four years of age and settled in Rutland county, Vermont. There he worked in the state mines thirteen years. In 1877 he came to Lyon county and homesteaded the northeast quarter of section 8, Lyons township. He secured his claim in this way: The man who held the quarter

section was a squatter, having failed to secure a right to the land. Mr. Jones was looking around for a claim and came across this man and offered to buy him out, and the squatter consented to sell. Mr. Jones paid him fifteen dollars in cash for the farm and fifteen bushels of potatoes.

Mr. Jones lived in a sod shanty on the place several years. During the snow year (1881) he went to Balaton for provisions on snow shoes, which he had made from red elm lumber. At that time the snow was over the telegraph poles. He resided on his Lyons township farm until 1900, when he sold to his son and moved to Russell, where he now resides. Since moving to Russell he has been engaged in selling caskets at the hardware store of his son, E. C. Jones, Jr.

Mr. Jones was a member of the Township Board of Supervisors of Lyons township and was chairman of the board.

On January 4, 1860, in Wales, occurred the marriage of our subject to Catherine Goodman, a daughter of Richard Goodman. Mr. and Mrs. Jones are the parents of seven children, as follows: Jane (Mrs. David Stiefel), Richard, Kate (Mrs. E. G. Loringer), Evan C., Jr., all of Russell; Emanuel, of North Dakota; John, of St. Paul; Grace (Mrs. James J. Sharratt), of Wadena.

Mr. Jones has in his possession a clock of considerable historical importance. It is the first time-piece bought by the Lyon county commissioners and for many years was used by them in the old building which stood on the present site of the Lyon county court house. Prior to moving into the new court house the officers sold some of the old furniture and among the lot was this old clock. Mr. Jones was present and bid it in for twelve cents. The clock is still doing duty and keeping good time in E. C. Jones' hardware store at Russell.

GOTTLIEB C. GOLTZ (1878) farms 177 acres of land on the south half of section 3, Rock Lake township, and has been a continuous resident of Lyon county since coming to this country from Germany in 1878. He located in the county on land he had purchased from the Northwestern Railroad Company. Mr. Goltz today has one of the finest improved farms and one of the most comfortable homes in the township.

Our subject was born in Germany June 2, 1853, and is a son of Christof and Christine (Wagner) Goltz, both deceased. Gottlieb in his boyhood attended the German common schools. From the time he was fourteen until his twentieth year he helped his father on the farm, after which he served in the German army three years. Leaving the army, Mr. Goltz again engaged in farming for some time in his native land, and in the spring of 1878 came to America and located on the farm in Rock Lake. He has been successful in his agricultural pursuits and has devoted much of his time in the last few years to cattle raising. For nine years Mr. Goltz was a director of school district No. 40, and he is a member of the A. O. U. W. lodge of Balaton.

Gottlieb Goltz was married June 22, 1882, to Wilhelmina Frost, a native of Germany, the marriage ceremony taking place in Rock Lake township. His wife was born December 17, 1859, is a daughter of August and Juliana (Meyer) Frost, both now dead. From this union are four children living, as follows: Emma (Mrs. E. C. Jones, Jr.), of Russell, born April 4, 1883; Albert, born June 15, 1884; Adelaide, born February 28, 1886; and Martha, born November 7, 1890. The family are members of the German Lutheran church of Balaton.

THOMAS P. BALDWIN (1879), now a resident of Forest Grove, Oregon, was for many years a resident of Lyon county and prominent in public affairs. He served a term in the Minnesota Legislature, was county auditor, and held other offices of trust.

Mr. Baldwin was born in Yates county, New York, May 27, 1836. He accompanied his parents to Wisconsin in October, 1846, and in May, 1856, he took up his residence in Fillmore county, Minnesota, where he secured government land. He engaged in farming in that county twenty-two years. He was in the army one year during the Civil War, as a member of the Fourth Minnesota Infantry, and in 1873 represented his district in the Legislature.

In March, 1879, Mr. Baldwin and his family moved to Lyon county. He farmed

two years in Stanley township and in January, 1881, moved to Marshall. That city was his home until June 15, 1911, when he and his wife moved to Forest Grove, Oregon. Mr. Baldwin was deputy postmaster of Marshall from 1882 to 1888. He was elected county auditor in the fall of 1888 and was re-elected in 1890. For eight years he was a member of the Board of County Commissioners and took part in important county legislation.

Mr. Baldwin was married on Christmas Day, 1861, to Sarah L. Bird, of Winona county. They reared three children: T. J. Baldwin, for many years a successful business man of Marshall and now a resident of Portland, Oregon; Ray D. Baldwin, for many years foreman of the Marshall News-Messenger office and now also of Oregon; and Ellen M., the wife of H. N. Robinson for many years a practical farmer of Lyon county and now a resident of Forest Grove, Oregon. For more than half a century Mr. and Mrs. T. P. Baldwin lived together. Mrs. Baldwin died at her Oregon home in the spring of 1912.

The subject of this review has seven grandchildren, as follows: Charles L. Robinson, Vinton, Harold, Irene and Lucile; Ray D. Baldwin, Jr., and Gertrude.

**LESTER F. FOSTER (1878).** An old resident of Lyon county is Lester F. Foster, the subject of this review, who now resides in Lynd township, where he is a land owner. He is a native of Illinois and was born at Kirkland September 20, 1861, the son of Charles S. and Sarah J. (Roberts) Foster. In 1878 Lester accompanied his parents to Lyon county and located with them on section 9, Lynd township. The father died May 7, 1909, and the mother October 3, 1900.

The subject of this review received his early education in the district schools of Wabasha county, Minnesota, and later in Lyon county, where he attended school until twenty years of age. He then worked for his father on the farm until he was twenty-five years of age. In 1887 he moved to Nebraska, where he resided about a year, and then returned to Lyon county. He has resided here continuously since. In April, 1905, Mr. Foster purchased the

southwest quarter of section 10, Lynd township, which he still owns and operates. Besides farming, he engages quite extensively in stockraising. He is a member of the First Presbyterian Church of Marshall and of the Modern Brotherhood of America lodge. Mr. Foster is a member of the Township Board of Supervisors of Lynd township, on which he has served four years. He was treasurer of school district No. 17 for five years. Mr. Foster is a stockholder and a director of the Farmers Elevator Company of Lynd.

August 29, 1886, occurred the marriage of Mr. Foster to Anna May Whitscell, a daughter of Benjamin Whitscell, of Grandview township. Mrs. Foster is a native of Illinois and was born near Rockford on December 3, 1868. To this union have been born the following children: Bennie Lester, born December 6, 1887; Hal Eugene, born August 30, 1889; Fay Ulmont, born March 26, 1897. All reside at home with their parents.

**HALL BENSON (1878)** owns the northeast quarter of section 19 and the west half of the southwest quarter of section 17, Nordland township, and is one of the township's successful farmers. He has lived in Lyon and Lincoln counties nearly all his life.

Mr. Benson is a native of Iceland and was born November 10, 1869. He accompanied his mother, Sigerbjurg Benson, and his stepfather, Sigfinnur Peterson, to America in 1878. The first winter the family lived in Westerheim township and then moved to Lincoln county, where they took a homestead claim. His mother and stepfather now reside in Minneota. On that place Hall lived until 1900; then he bought his Nordland township farm and returned to Lyon county. He raises Poland China hogs and grade cattle.

For four years Mr. Benson was assessor of Nordland township and he has served as clerk of school district No. 29. He is a member of the Icelandic Lutheran church and of the Modern Woodmen lodge.

Mr. Benson was married in Lincoln county July 12, 1897, to Ida Johnson. She is also a native of Iceland and is a daughter of John Johnson, of Minneota. Her mother

is dead. Seven children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Benson. They are Bjorn M., Caroline, George, Vivian, Harold, Joseph and Francis D.

OLE I. LEE (1873), a native of Lyon county, is manager of the Eagle Roller Mill Company's elevator at Minneota. He was born August 8, 1873, in Grandview township, on his father's homestead, the northeast quarter of section 18.

His parents were Christian H. and Oline (Aal) Lee, pioneer settlers of Lyon county. The father was born in Norway, came to the United States in 1866, and settled in Iowa. In 1873 he came to Lyon county and homesteaded land. He resided here until 1892, when he moved to Moody county, South Dakota, where he now lives. The mother died in 1876. They were the parents of four children: H. C., G. C., Ole I. and Oline. Christine H. Lee was married a second time, in 1888, to Mrs. O. I. Leland. To this union have been born two children, Otto and Winnie. The father was the first blacksmith in the county, having operated a shop on his farm, and in 1875 ran a shop on the old townsite on the west side of the Yellow Medicine river.

Our subject resided on the old home farm in Grandview township until nineteen years of age. He then farmed and worked at various occupations until 1905, when he accepted the position as manager of the elevator at Minneota. This elevator, or part of it, was built in 1879 by the L. C. Porter Milling Company and was one of the first elevators in Minneota. In 1889 a farmers' company purchased it and operated it several years, when it was sold to the Atlas Elevator Company. In 1905 it was sold to its present owners, the Eagle Roller Mills Company, of New Ulm, Minnesota. They deal in grain, coal and flour. The subject of this sketch is a member of the Modern Woodmen lodge.

On February 25, 1897, at Minneota, Bertha Meyers became the wife of Mr. Lee. Mrs. Lee is a native of Wisconsin but came to Lyon county when a child. They are the parents of six children: Lloyd, Oren, Clarence, Melba, Barbara and Charlotte.

JOHN C. PEDERSON (1874) is the proprietor of 320 acres of Lucas township's

best farm land and is a successful farmer and stock raiser. He is prominent in the township's affairs and has been clerk of school district No. 74 the past fourteen years. He served nine years on the town board, one year of that time as chairman, and for three years was treasurer. Mr. Pederson is a stockholder of the Home Telephone Company of Cottonwood.

Christopher and Beret (Slette) Pederson, our subject's parents, were natives of Norway, came to America in an early day, and located in Rice county, Minnesota. Later the family moved to Lyon county and the father took one of the first homesteads in Lucas township, filing in 1874. He was one of those hardy pioneers who had the fortitude to endure the early privations and lived to see the fruits of his endeavors, for at the time of his death, June 22, 1910, he was the owner of 1200 acres of fine farm land in Lyon and Yellow Medicine counties. His widow lives at Cottonwood. In the family were six children: Johan (deceased), Hannah (Mrs. Hans Volden), of Lucas; Peter C., of Lucas; John C., of this review; Lewis C., of Lucas; and Christian (deceased). The living children are all residents of the township.

John C. was born in Rice county June 26, 1873, and came with his parents to Lyon county when a child of three weeks. Here he received his education and grew to manhood, and he worked on the home farm for his father until twenty-six years of age. At that time the parents moved to Cottonwood and our subject assumed active charge of the farm, and he has since run the place.

Mr. Pederson was married in the township May 3, 1901, to Sina Morken. She is a native of Norway and was born February 23, 1877. Mr and Mrs. Pederson are the parents of one child, Christopher, born September 16, 1902. The Pedersons belong to the Silo Norwegian Lutheran church of Cottonwood.

GEORGE K. BROUGHTON (1872). When he was one year of age, forty years ago, George K. Broughton was brought by his parents to Lyon county, and ever since that time his home has been in Westerheim town-

ship. He is the owner of 200 acres of land, the home place being the southwest quarter of section 12, land taken as a homestead by his father. He has a well-improved farm and a nice home.

In Dane county, Wisconsin, on July 14, 1871, George Broughton was born, a son of Knud and Martha Broughton, who are also residents of Westerheim township. He accompanied the family to Lyon county in 1872, attended the district school until eighteen years old, and made his home with his parents until 1902. That year he was married and began farming for himself, having come into possession of the farm three years before. He is a successful farmer and extensive stock raiser, making a specialty of Belgian horses, Poland China hogs and Durham cattle. He is one of the stockholders of the Farmers Elevator Company of Minneota and has membership in the Norwegian Lutheran church of Normania township, Yellow Medicine county.

The marriage of our subject to Ingar Amundson took place November 21, 1902. Ingar Amundson was born in Norway April 24, 1875, and is a daughter of pioneers of Lyon county. Ole and Martha (Stensrud) Amundson settled in Lyon county in an early day, residing here a few years, and then made their home in Lincoln county, where they are still living.

Four children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Broughton: Mabel, born July 2, 1903; Myrtle, born February 13, 1905; Antonio, born October 9, 1909; and Grace, born December 28, 1911.

JOHANN A. JOSEFSON (1878) has lived in Westerheim township thirty-four years, all except the first sixteen years of his life. By industry and thrift he has prospered and is rated among the progressive and substantial men of the township. He has an excellent farm and one of the finest farm homes in the county.

Iceland is Mr. Josefson's native land and he was born April 5, 1862. In 1878 he came to America with his parents and an uncle, Joseph Josefson, and has ever since lived in Lyon county. His father took a homestead claim in Limestone township, Lincoln county, but Johann made his home with his uncle, who took as a homestead the northwest

quarter of section 8, Westerheim township. On that place our subject grew to manhood, working for his uncle until 1895.

Two years before that time Mr. Josefson had become a land owner, having bought the southwest quarter of section 9, Westerheim, in partnership with his relative, and he still owns the south half of that quarter. In 1895 he began farming for himself and now owns and resides on the northwest quarter of section 4. In the summer of 1909 Mr. Josefson erected at considerable cost a re-enforced concrete house of fine architecture and the only one of the kind in the county. The building has nineteen rooms, including the basement rooms, and is one of the best appointed farm homes of the county.

Mr. Josefson was one of the organizers of school district No. 80 and he was a director and later treasurer of the district several years. He also served as a member of the Township Board of Supervisors several terms. He has stock in the Farmers Elevator Company of Minneota and in the Lyon County Fair Association. He is a Mason, holding membership in the Minneota Lodge No. 238.

Vigfus and Sigurborg Josefson, the parents of our subject, came from Iceland in 1878 and took a homestead in Lincoln county, where they resided until Mrs. Josefson's death in 1895. Since that time Mr. Josefson has resided with his sons. There are five children in the family, namely: Joseph V., of Minneota; Sigurrin V., of Lincoln county; Herman and Johann, of Westerheim township; and Sigrid (Mrs. Ernest Johnson), of Minneota.

The first marriage of Johann Josefson occurred in Westerheim township November 28, 1895, when he wedded Thordes Snorradottir. She was born in Iceland and died February 27, 1900, at the age of twenty-four years. The second marriage of Mr. Josefson was solemnized in Westerheim township May 27, 1906, his bride being Gudny Hofteig. She was born in Iceland October 12, 1871, and came to Lyon county with her parents from the old country in 1878. S. S. Hofteig and Steinunn Hofteig, her parents, took as a homestead claim the southeast quarter of section 2, Westerheim, and still reside there. Mr. and Mrs. Josefson have three daughters, Thordis S. E., Isfold S. and Johanna G. H. Mrs. Josefson is a member of the Icelandic

Lutheran church. She is a woman of unusual educational attainments, having been graduated from the Advanced Course of the State Normal School at Winona with the class of 1897 and from the Classical Course of Gustavus Adolphus College at St. Peter with the class of 1906.

ERNEST S. SHEPARD (1894), auditor of Lyon county, was born in Worthington, Minnesota, September 4, 1877. He is the son of C. P. and Anna V. (Cowan) Shepard, natives of New York and Maine, respectively, and now residents of Marshall.

Ernest received his education in the Worthington High School and in the Breck School at Wilder, Minnesota. At the age of seventeen years he moved to Marshall with his parents, and that city has ever since been his home. For a time he was a student at the Curtiss Business College of Minneapolis, and for a short time he was a clerk in the United States Land Office at Marshall, of which his father was the register. For three years he worked in the office of the county treasurer and for eight years was deputy county auditor. In November, 1906, he was elected auditor and has since held the office.

At Marshall, on September 3, 1898, Mr. Shepard was united in marriage to Esther Harrison. She is a native of Lyon county and is the daughter of E. J. Harrison, a pioneer settler. Mr. Shepard is a member of the Masonic, Eastern Star and Modern Woodmen lodges.

PETER T. DAHL (1888) is the manager of the North Star Implement Company of Cottonwood and has resided in Lyon county since he was fifteen years of age. He is a native of Minnesota, having been born in Blue Earth county January 30, 1873. He is the son of T. A. and Emma (Ofstedahl) Dahl, who were born in Norway and who came to America and settled in Blue Earth county over forty years ago. They reside on their farm in Vallers township. There are six living children in the Dahl family, namely: Carrie, Peter T., of this sketch; C. T., of Madelia; Barhard, of Yellow Medicine county; Ludvig, of Cottonwood; and Fred, who resides on the home farm. One child, Theo-

dore, died March 3, 1911, aged twenty-nine years, and another child, Bertha, died in 1907, at the age of twenty-seven years.

Peter accompanied the family to Lyon county in 1888 and until 1897 lived on the farm of his father, on section 1, Vallers township. In the year mentioned Mr. Dahl took a position as traveling salesman for the Champion Binder Company, served with that company two years, and during the next year was with the Deering Company. He then located in Cottonwood and with E. P. Kelly founded the implement business of Dahl & Kelly. The partners conducted the business until 1905, when the North Star Implement Company was formed and bought out the partners. Since that time Mr. Dahl has been the manager of the company.

Mr. Dahl was married in Madison, Minnesota, October 26, 1905, to Lizzie Brown. She is a native of Rochester, Minnesota, but for twenty years before her marriage had resided in Madison. They have no children. Mr. Dahl has served as a member of the Village Council and for the last two years he has been village treasurer.

The North Star Implement Company is one of the important business enterprises of Cottonwood. The business is housed in the Bazaar Building, which the company bought. The company was organized and incorporated in 1905 with a capital stock of \$25,000 by a number of local capitalists. It handles a large line of farm implements and automobiles. The officers and directors of the company are as follows: J. F. Gibb, president; J. B. Robertson, vice president; L. T. Reishus, secretary and treasurer; P. T. Dahl, manager; David Frank, T. A. Lende, Charles Catlin and I. T. Garry.

FRED W. MELLENTHIN (1879) is one of the most prosperous farmers of Lynd township and Lyon county, as well as one of the largest land holders. He is a native of Germany and was born at Frainenwalde April 26, 1859. He is the son of William and Amelia Mellenthin, both deceased.

Fred received his early education in the land of his nativity, where he attended school until thirteen years of age. He also attended school near New London, Wisconsin, for two terms. He accompanied his parents to America when thirteen years of age and



R.M. NEILL,  
Treasurer.



E.S. SHEPARD,  
Auditor.



M.E. DRAKE,  
Register of Deeds.

## LYON COUNTY OFFICERS



M.E. GRANNAN,  
Sheriff.



Lyon County Court House



J.H. HALL,  
County Attorney.



A.G. BUMFORD,  
Clerk of Court.



H.R. PAINTER,  
Superintendent of Schools.

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TILDEN FOUNDATIONS

settled with them near New London, Wisconsin. Fred worked out at farm labor and attended school for the next seven years.

In 1879 Mr. Mellenthin came to Lyon county and, in company with his brother August, purchased the southwest quarter of section 9, Lynd township, which they farmed until 1882, when they divided the land. Fred improved his eighty acres and since that time has become the owner of 840 acres more, making him the owner of 920 acres of fine land. He operates between five and six hundred acres. Our subject is a member of the Evangelical Lutheran church. He has been an officer of school district No. 17 for several years and was road overseer for several years.

On February 12, 1883, Mr. Mellenthin was united in marriage to Amelia Schellin, a daughter of Ferdinand and Rika (Kruger) Schellin, former residents of Wisconsin. Both her parents are deceased. Mrs. Mellenthin was born March 11, 1866. Mr. and Mrs. Mellenthin are the parents of the following named children: Ernest, born June 21, 1884; Louis, born October 7, 1886; Emma, born January 16, 1889; Robert, born November 18, 1891; Alma, born August 7, 1894.

DR. C. E. PERSONS (1877) is the oldest doctor in Marshall in point of service. He was born in Spencerville, Allen county, Indiana, on February 27, 1847. He is the son of Salmon M. and Mary M. (Cutts) Persons, natives of Orwell, Vermont. They moved to Spencerville in the fall of 1846. At the close of the war they came to Minnesota, locating at Northfield, where the mother died in 1875. The father died in Lyon county in 1880. When sixteen years of age, our subject accompanied his parents to Northfield, where he remained until 1877 and where he received his early education, graduating from Carleton College, Northfield. He was also graduated from Ann Arbor College in the spring of 1877.

In the latter year Dr. Persons came to Lyon county and engaged in the practise of his profession, and he has continued here since that date. He went through the struggles of a young doctor in pioneer days in Lyon county, he being the oldest doctor, in point of service, of the county. He was county coroner several years, has been

United States pension examiner since 1880, and is local physician for the Northwestern Railroad Company. He has been county physician and has been treasurer of the school board a number of years, having been on the board at the time of the erection of the new school building.

The first office of Dr. Persons was upstairs in a little frame building on the south side of Main Street, where the City Meat Market is now, the lower floor being occupied as the postoffice. Later he had his office in a frame building where the Olson & Lowe store is now, and later he and James Lawrence built the two brick buildings on the same site, where our subject was located a number of years. Dr. Persons built the residence now owned by F. J. Parker in 1891. He now has his office in his residence, which he built in 1906.

Dr. Persons was married in Marshall November 27, 1878, to Addie E. Gary, a native of Winona county, Minnesota. She was born June 12, 1858, the year Minnesota was admitted to the Union, and came to Lyon county with her parents, H. B. and Nancy (Woodard) Gary. The former died in 1911, the latter in 1905. Mrs. Persons was a school teacher and taught in the Marshall schools several years. She is a graduate of the Winona Normal School, class of 1877. Dr. and Mrs. Persons are the parents of two children: Harris Edward and Robert Wayne.

Our subject's parents had six children, four of whom are living. They are as follows: Dr. C. E., of this sketch; Emma A. (Mrs. C. C. Wagner), of Larimore, North Dakota; Orville E., of Clarkston, Idaho; Mary E. (Mrs. Albert Dresser), of New Salem, North Dakota.

Dr. Persons holds membership in the American, State, County and local physicians associations and is secretary of the last named.

MRS. CATHERINE MIELKE (1874) is the widow of Herman Mielke, one of the pioneer settlers of Lucas township. She lives on the farm, directs its management, and employs help to attend to the farm labor.

Herman Mielke was a native of Germany

and was born May 23, 1834. He received his bringing up in his home country and came to America in 1872, and it was two years later that he took a homestead in Lucas township, Lyon county. That was his home until his death December 26, 1910, and his widow is now living on the old homestead.

The subject of this sketch is a native of Canada and was born August 22, 1858, a daughter of William and Annie (Bell) Rose, both now deceased. Our subject accompanied her grandparents to the States when eleven years old, and the family were among the first settlers in Lucas township, the year 1870 being the year of their arrival. Mrs. Mielke received her education in the country school and resided with her grandparents until 1875.

That was the year of her marriage, the date being November 11, and the ceremony being performed at Marshall. Mr. and Mrs. Mielke were the parents of thirteen children, twelve of whom are living, as follows: Hermenne, of Minneapolis; William, of Big Horn, Wyoming; Matilda (Mrs. William Thiel), of Stanley township; Augusta (Mrs. Edward Broberg), of Dassel; August, of Canada; Elizabeth (Mrs. Sebert Lien), of Dassel; Elvine (Mrs. Edward Schultz), of Franklin; Bertha (Mrs. William Kahl), of Yellow Medicine county; Julius, of Fairfax; Hattie, of Franklin; and Mamie and Mabel, at home. Mrs. Mielke has long been a member of the Presbyterian church.

ANTON A. HELICKSON (1876), of Westerheim township, has lived on one farm in that precinct since he was one year of age. He is a son of Andrew and Enger (Cliffgard) Hellickson and was born in Dane county, Wisconsin, May 8, 1875.

Anton accompanied his parents to Lyon county when one year old, in 1876, and has ever since made his home with his parents. He received a good education, taking a two-year course in the Minneota High School and attending the Madison Normal School after completing his primary education. For a number of years he has been engaged in farming, operating 240 acres of his father's land in addition to his own land, the southeast quarter of

section 9, Westerheim, which he bought in 1904. Mr. Hellickson has made a success of his farming operations and is classed as one of the successful men of his township. He raises Durham cattle and Duroc-Jersey hogs.

Mr. Hellickson was married in Yellow Medicine county February 22, 1897, to Annetta Brusven. She was born in that county November 29, 1877. Her parents, Olaus and Annie (Roeberg) Brusven, were born in Norway and are now residents of Yellow Medicine county. Mr. and Mrs. Hellickson have three children, Alice, Alvin and Amelia. They are members of the Norwegian Lutheran church.

FRED C. MARKS (1876) is a farmer and land owner of Clifton township who has lived in that precinct since he was five years of age. He was born in Plainview, Wabasha county, Minnesota, January 18, 1871. His parents are Charles and Margaret (Mengild) Marks, natives of Germany and now residents of Granite Falls.

When he was a little past five years old, in 1876, Fred Marks accompanied his parents to Lyon county. His father took as a homestead claim the northeast quarter of section 2, Clifton township, and on that place our subject spent his boyhood days. At fourteen years of age he began working out as a farm hand and was so employed several years, spending one year working on a railroad in North Dakota. In the spring of 1891 Mr. Marks bought the northwest quarter of section 3, Clifton township, and on that place he has ever since made his home, excepting the year 1910, when his place was operated by a tenant.

Mr. Marks has stock in the Lyon County Fair Association. He served one year on the Board of Supervisors of Clifton township and was treasurer of school district No. 42 three years. He is a Woodman by lodge affiliation.

The marriage of Mr. Marks to Jennie Nelson occurred in Marshall October 30, 1896. She was born in Denmark May 7, 1874, and died March 19, 1911. To this union the following named five children were born: Charles F., Helen, Alice, Raymond and Louis (deceased).

ANDREW J. SWENSON (1872) owns the southwest quarter of section 23, Monroe township, and is one of the prominent farmers of the community. He is a warm advocate of the co-operative principle in business and was largely responsible for the formation of the Farmers Co-operative Elevator Company of Garvin and for the advancement of the co-operative idea in that village and vicinity.

Mr. Swenson was born in Norway October 18, 1852, and at the age of nine years came with his parents, John and Mary (Syverson) Swenson, to America, the family locating in La Crosse county, Wisconsin, where the father died in 1861. Andrew resided with his family in his youth and received his education in the common schools. In 1872 he and a brother-in-law drove with an ox-team from La Crosse county to Lyon county, Minnesota. They camped on the way, and the journey was necessarily slow. The boys spent the spring and summer on the trip and looked the country over, returning that fall to Wisconsin, where Andrew remained until 1876.

In 1876 our subject moved to Lyon county and was employed the next four years in farming and railroading. In the fall of 1880 he married, and then in company with John J. Holden he rented the Cutts farm in Custer township and farmed the place four years. Andrew's mother had remarried after the death of her first husband, and in 1872 she came to Lyon county and took a homestead and resided here until 1894, then going to Washington, where she died in 1901. After four years on the Cutts farm, Andrew moved to the homestead which his mother had taken and there made his home four years. He then purchased 160 acres in Murray county and farmed the place ten years, later adding to his possessions and making his total holdings 280 acres.

In the spring of 1901 Mr. Swenson returned to Lyon county and located on his farm, the southwest quarter of section 23. For four years he conducted the Sleepy Eye elevator at Tracy, and for about one year and a half he had charge of the farmers' elevator at Garvin, but for the most part Mr. Swenson has made his home on the farm on section 23 since 1901. Our subject has held various offices during his

residence in Murray and Lyon counties. He was chairman of the Town Board in both Murray and Lyon counties several years. During his entire residence in Murray county he was treasurer of his school district, and he has held the office of assessor.

Andrew Swenson was married November 15, 1880, in Murray county, to Carrie Olson, a native of Wisconsin. She was born January 3, 1858. Mr. and Mrs. Swenson are the parents of the following children: Hattie Matilda (Mrs. Peter O. Nasvik), of St. Paul; Julia Mabel, Clara Amanda, Emma Sophia, Nina Louisa and Anna Ovida. Mr. Swenson is a member of the Norwegian Lutheran church, and his fraternal affiliations are with the Modern Woodmen lodge.

DR. H. M. WORKMAN (1884), physician and surgeon of Tracy, has resided in that city, engaged in the practice of his profession, for twenty-eight years. He is one of two children (the other being Morris Workman, of Tracy) born to Daniel M. and Virginia (Gephardt) Workman, natives of Ohio.

Dr. Workman was born in Circleville, Ohio, May 14, 1855. After receiving a high school education he matriculated in Northwestern University of Chicago and was granted a diploma in medicine with the class of 1878. He practised in Chicago until 1880, when he located in Huron, South Dakota. A short time later he located in Sleepy Eye, and in 1884 he became a resident of Tracy, where he has ever since been engaged in practice.

The doctor is a member of the American Medical Association, the state association, the Lyon-Lincoln Medical Association, and the American Railway Surgeons Association. He is a member of the Blue Lodge, Chapter and Commandery of the Masonic order, the Eastern Star, Modern Woodmen and A. O. U. W. lodges.

Dr. Workman was married at Mankato, Minnesota, January 27, 1887, to Nell M. Gleason, a native of Winona county, Minnesota. They have one child, Warner Gleason Workman, who is a student in the Medical Department of the University of Minnesota.

ALVIN L. BLANCHARD (1879) has continuously had his home in Lyon county thirty-three years. He owns a 235-acre farm on section 4, Rock Lake township, and is rated as a successful farmer. He raises Norman and Percheron horses, Hereford cattle and Poland China hogs.

Mr. Blanchard is one of a family of four children, the others being Clarence A., of Blanchardville, Wisconsin; Kate (Mrs. Samuel Corbin), of Lily, South Dakota; and William, of Blanchardville. The father of these children was Alvin Blanchard, after whom the city of Blanchardville was named. He was born in New York, settled in Wisconsin in an early day, and died in 1911. The mother of the children is Mary (Skinner) Blanchard, of Balaton.

Alvin L. Blanchard of this review was born in the city named after his father on August 6, 1858. When he was seven years of age he accompanied the family to Freeborn county, Minnesota, and resided with them there until 1879; then the family came to Lyon county. Alvin farmed in Lyons township five years and has since been engaged in the same business in Rock Lake, for many years on his present farm.

Mr. Blanchard has stock in the Current Lake Telephone Company and the Lyon County Co-operative Company of Balaton. He has membership in the Masonic and Woodmen lodges of Russell, having been a charter member of the last named.

The marriage of Mr. Blanchard to Hattie A. Van Fleet occurred in Rock Lake township in December, 1884. His wife was born in Chatfield, Minnesota, June 14, 1859. Her parents, John A. and Nancy G. (Gere) Van Fleet, were pioneers of Lyon county, homesteaded a part of the land now owned by Mr. Blanchard, and are both dead. Mr. and Mrs. Blanchard have four children: Gertrude L., a school teacher of Berlin, North Dakota; Teresa H. (Mrs. Henry Erickson), of Sioux Falls, South Dakota; Gladys S. (Mrs. Milton S. Clark), of Rock Lake township; and Llewellys Van, who lives with his parents.

DAVID R. ROBERTS (1878), Lyons township farmer, has lived in the county and on the farm he now occupies since he was a child nine years of age. His parents,

Richard R. and Mary (Prichard) Roberts, were born in Wales and he was born in Rutland county, Vermont, July 2, 1869.

When David was two or three years of age the family moved to Michigan, where the father worked at the slate maker's trade and in the copper mines several years. They came to Lyon county in 1878 and took as a homestead claim the southwest quarter of section 20, Lyons township, which place has ever since been the home of our subject.

Until 1901 David worked on the home farm and then he rented the place from his father and has since had the management. In his stock raising he makes a specialty of Aberdeen Angus cattle. Mr. Roberts owns stock in the Farmers Elevator Company of Russell. He has served ten years as treasurer of his township and is a member of the Workmen lodge.

Mr. Roberts was married in Russell on September 4, 1901, to Sadie Jones, a native of Illinois and a daughter of John N. and Jemima (Jenkins) Jones. The three children of Mr. and Mrs. Roberts are named Joe, Ethel and Mildred.

MRS. MARIE G. OLSON (1872) is the owner of the south half of section 30, Monroe township, a well-improved farm. She resides on the farm and is assisted in its management by three of her sons, Emil, Edward and John, who own land adjoining and are successfully conducting the home place. They have large herds of Shorthorn cattle and Duroc-Jersey swine and a number of fine Percheron horses.

Mrs. Olson was born in Holand, Norway, November 27, 1844. She was married to John Matteson in 1866 and came to America in 1869 and located in Fillmore county, Minnesota, where a few weeks after their arrival her husband died. Two sons were born to this union, Emil, who was born in 1867, and Martin J., who was born in 1869.

In 1871 our subject was married to Gunerius Olson, and the next year they moved from Fillmore county to Lyon county. They took as a homestead claim the southwest quarter of section 30, Monroe township, and later they bought the southeast quarter of the same section. Mr. Olson, who was born in Norway in 1840,

died in 1903. Six children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Olson, as follows: Hilda A., born 1872; Ragna S., born 1875; Olaf C., born 1878; Edward G., born 1881; John A., born 1884; Elma M., born 1889.

Mrs. Olson is a member of Holand Lutheran Church, which is situated on her farm.

OLE RIALSON (1872). There are few people living in Lyon county today who were here when Ole Rialson came more than forty years ago. He is a veteran of the Civil War, a homesteader of Lyon county, and a man who has been prominent in the affairs of his community. He now lives a retired life in the city of Tracy.

Mr. Rialson was born in Norway September 24, 1841. He accompanied the family to America in 1849 and the first winter in the New World was spent in Rock county, Wisconsin. The next year the Rialsons moved to Green county of the same state, where Rile Rialson, the father, pre-empted a quarter section of government land. The father died on that place and his wife, Lucy (Syverson) Rialson, died at the home of her son in Tracy.

Our subject was brought up on the farm and after growing up engaged in that pursuit on his own account. On August 11, 1862, at Monroe, Wisconsin, he enlisted in Company G, Twenty-second Wisconsin Infantry, and served in the army until the close of the war. From the time of the battle of Chattanooga until the war was over Mr. Rialson was in General Sherman's army and was one of those who made the memorable march to the sea. He was taken prisoner in Tennessee and for a time was confined in Libby Prison.

After the war Mr. Rialson returned to Green county and farmed until his removal to Lyon county in the spring of 1872. Upon his arrival he took as a homestead claim the southeast quarter of section 22, Monroe township, close to which the village of Tracy was founded three years later. He built a sod shanty on the claim and in the fall was joined by his family. Upon his arrival the only people living in Monroe township were E. W. Healy, David Stafford, Ole Anderson, Ole Helgeson, Asle Olson and Charles Christopherson.

In the spring of 1873 Mr. Rialson hauled

lumber from Walnut Grove and erected a small frame building. Later that was replaced by a more pretentious structure, and Mr. Rialson and his family resided therein until 1892, when he moved to Tracy and retired from active life. While he was hauling the lumber for his first frame house, Mr. Rialson had his first view of the dreaded grasshoppers, which wrought such damage. He did not desert the country, as did so many of the homesteaders, but has continuously made his home here since his first arrival.

The name of the township in which he has lived for so many years was bestowed by Mr. Rialson, after Monroe, the county seat of Green county, Wisconsin. At the election, which was held in his house, the name Monroe was suggested by Mr. Rialson and the name Chelsea by Mr. Wells. The voters adopted the name suggested by our subject. Mr. Rialson was also one who took an active part in the organization of the township and he was the first township treasurer, as well as the first treasurer of his school district.

The marriage of Mr. Rialson to Gunild Olson occurred in Green county, Wisconsin, on New Year's Day, 1866. She was born in Norway and died in Tracy February 12, 1902. Mr. Rialson has one child, Robert, who resides on the old homestead. Four sons born to the union have died. The second marriage of Mr. Rialson occurred March 26, 1903, when he wedded Mrs. Ingeborg Erlandson.

JOHN JOHNSON (1876) has spent the entire thirty-six years of his life in Lyon county. He owns the southeast quarter of section 5, Westerheim township, has made all the improvements on that place, and has a fine home. He was born in Nordland township August 21, 1876, and after growing to manhood bought his farm and engaged in business for himself.

Jens B. and Annie (Kittleson) Johnson, his parents, live on the old homestead on section 2, Nordland. They came from Norway early in life and were married in Wisconsin. Later they lived in Goodhue county, Minnesota, a short time, a few years in Yellow Medicine county, and in 1876 they bought a homestead right in Nordland

township and have resided there ever since. There are six children in the family, as follows: Bessie (Mrs. H. B. Nelson), of South Dakota; Mary, Sina (Mrs. John Wahl), of South Dakota; Annie, John, of this review; and Gilbert, of Eidsvold township.

John Johnson was married at Canby May 1, 1901, to Bessie Julia Severson. She was born in Dane county, Wisconsin, and is a daughter of Anton Severson, who has lived in Yellow Medicine county the past twenty years. Mr. and Mrs. Johnson have two children, Alice S. and Gladys J. The family are members of the Norwegian Lutheran church of Minneota and Mr. Johnson has been a member of the school board of district No. 80 for the past four years.

FRANCIS GITS (1883), of Ghent, having retired from active business life after a long and active career and having reached the good age of sixty-six years, departed with his wife in 1904 for Belgium with the intention of making the land of their birth the home of their declining years. The following year found the elderly couple safely back in Ghent, Minnesota, in the land of their adoption, fully decided that Ghent was home. Such was the love for this country that had been instilled into the minds of Francis Gits and his wife after they had made America their residence since immigrating to this country in 1883. It does not seem strange that here Mr. Gits should find contentment. It has been the field of his earnest endeavors, his business activity, his progress, his prosperity. His children are in business there and the community contains many friends.

Born October 6, 1838, a son of Louis and Natalie Gits, Francis was reared in Cortemork, Belgium, his birthplace. At the age of sixteen, his schooling being completed, he learned the blacksmith's trade under his father and became proficient. He followed that calling in the old country and continued to do so after coming to America and locating in Ghent in the summer of 1883. That year Mr. Gits also started a general store and opened a hotel in Ghent and continued to operate all three places during the following thirteen years. He added a hardware stock to his general

store. In 1901 Mr. Gits retired from active business. He has been very successful, both in business and in the field of investment, making frequent purchases of real estate and selling at good advances. He is the owner of two residence properties in Marshall and three in Ghent, and is a stockholder of the First State Bank of Ghent.

The subject of our sketch is a loyal member of the Catholic church and has been a trustee of the Ghent church for twenty years. For several years he was a trustee of the village board and was for several years president of the council. For several terms he was on the school board.

January 15, 1863, Francis Gits wedded Louise Cornette, a native of Belgium. She was born June 22, 1836. The following children were born to this union: Paul, Julius, Joseph, Victor, Edmund, Arthur, Prudence (Mrs. Gustav Vergote), deceased, and Clemence (Mrs. Charles Foulon), of Ghent.

CASSIUS M. WILLFORD (1878) is an old resident of the county and has lived in Custer township thirty-two years. He was born in Winona county, Minnesota, August 14, 1861, and is a son of Daniel and Malinda (Joy) Willford, the former of whom is deceased and the latter being a resident of Balaton. His parents were early settlers in Lyon county, the father having taken as a homestead the northeast quarter of section 22, Custer township, where the family resided until the fall of 1891, when the parents moved to Balaton.

Cassius received his education in Winona county, where he resided until sixteen years of age. In the spring of 1878 he and his brother, Clinton, came to Lyon county and engaged in preparing the land which their father had taken the previous year as a tree claim. The lad continued to make his home with his parents until thirty years of age, at which time he married and took up his residence on the southeast quarter of section 15, Custer township, land which he had purchased in 1885 and where he has since resided, with the exception of five years spent in Tracy. Mr. Willford has increased his real estate holdings and now farms 240

acres and engages quite extensively in stock raising.

The marriage of Cassius M. Willford and Laura Cutler occurred in Tracy January 14, 1891. To this union one child, John Cutler, was born March 21, 1892. Mrs. Willford is a native of Vermont, and her parents, John H. and Martha (Fisher) Cutler, are both dead. They were early settlers of the county, coming to Custer township in 1881 and making that their home until their deaths.

Cassius Willford served several years on the Custer township board and is a stockholder of the Farmers Independent Elevator Company of Garvin. Fraternally he is allied with the A. O. U. W. lodge of Balaton, the Masons of Tracy, and the Modern Woodmen lodge of Garvin.

LOUIS HELGESON (1874) is one of Monroe township's successful farmers, owning the northeast quarter of section 28, which adjoins the quarter section belonging to his brother Ole. He was born April 3, 1874, on his father's homestead, the northwest quarter of section 28, Monroe township. During his boyhood days he worked for his father and attended the school of district No. 33. After completing his schooling he worked for neighboring farmers and at home until his father's death in 1892.

After the father's death Louis Helgeson, in company with his brothers Ole and Helge, rented a half section of land, and for several years the three boys farmed that and the homestead in partnership. In 1906 Louis withdrew from the partnership and bought the land which he now owns, which he has farmed since that time. He has a well improved piece of land and engages in raising cattle to some extent.

The marriage of Louis Helgeson and Elise Anderson occurred December 20, 1906, in Monroe township. Mrs. Helgeson was born April 25, 1885, and died October 18, 1908.

The parents of our subject were Ole Helgeson Brevig, born November 9, 1840, and Isabel (Olsdatti) Helgeson, both natives of Norway. They came to this country in 1869 and located in Fillmore county, Minnesota. They resided there a few years before coming to Lyon county in 1871 and taking a homestead in Monroe township. Both parents are now dead.

Louis Helgeson is a member of the Holand Norwegian Lutheran church. For two years he served on the Township Board of Supervisors of Monroe township.

A. C. CHITTENDEN (1878), a retired business man of Marshall and the owner of Opera House Block, has played an important part in the history of that city, of which he has been a resident thirty-four years.

Mr. Chittenden was born in the town of Westbrook, Middlesex county, Connecticut, July 29, 1845, a descendant of old colonial stock. His paternal grandfather, Cornelius Chittenden, was a veteran of the Revolutionary War and died in Westbrook, Connecticut, about 1857, at the age of ninety-three years. The subject of this review attended the funeral. The parents of our subject, Albert C. and Patience L. (Jones) Chittenden, were also natives of Middlesex county, Connecticut. The father died at Boulder, Colorado, in 1878, at the age of sixty-seven years. The mother died in Brooklyn, New York, in 1900.

In the Chittenden family, besides our subject, are the following: Richard H., an attorney of New York, and Albert J., both deceased; Newton H., a Civil War veteran and an explorer, of Brooklyn, New York; Adelaide (Mrs. James Turner), of Brooklyn; Rev. Ezra P., an Episcopal minister and a graduate of Yale, of Clinton, Missouri, who is the author of "Pleroma," a poem of the Christ, published in book form in 1889; and Carolin (Mrs. J. Turner), of Brooklyn.

When A. C. Chittenden was thirteen years of age he accompanied his parents from the old Connecticut home and located at Ripon, Wisconsin, where he resided until twenty-one years of age. There he spent the summer months working on his father's farm near Ripon and the winter months attending the Ripon High School. He completed his education in Ripon College. In the early seventies the family scattered, the parents moving to Boulder, Colorado. When he reached his majority our subject located at Milwaukee, where he was a bookkeeper in a commission house two years. He then located at Atwater, Minnesota, and engaged in business for himself. He put up a little building, opened a store, and made his start in life. Seven years after locating in Atwater, Mr. Chittenden moved to Boulder,

Colorado, where he engaged in the real estate business. By a bank failure Mr. Chittenden lost \$4400. He then went to Minneapolis, remained there a short time, and in 1878 became a resident of Marshall.

The year after his arrival in Marshall Mr. Chittenden erected the Opera House Block (in which he still maintains an office) and opened a store which he conducted a quarter of a century. This old building has been used for many purposes—for a public hall, opera house and court house, the district court having been held therein before the new court house was erected. Mr. Chittenden engaged in other business enterprises. He erected a hotel at Minnesota Junction, conducted a store at Watertown, South Dakota, and a branch at Amiret. For a time he was also connected with the old Lyon County Bank. The double brick block now occupied by the Marshall Furniture Company and Durrenburger's harness shop was erected by Mr. Chittenden. After retiring from active business Mr. Chittenden spent two years in Redlands, California, where he put up a business block to rent. He is now the owner of about 1200 acres of farm land and devotes his energies to their management and to real estate deals. Mr. Chittenden was the first no-license mayor of Marshall.

The subject of this review was married at Milwaukee, Wisconsin, to Agnes Hill. She is a native of Edinburgh, Scotland, and a daughter of John and Sarah Hill. The family came to the United States when Agnes Hill was about eight years of age and settled in Milwaukee. Mr. and Mrs. Chittenden have four children: Rodney, of Ritzville, Washington; Walter, of Marshall; Florence (Mrs. Fred Shardlow), of Marshall; and Alice, a graduate nurse of St. Paul's Hospital, St. Paul. Mr. Chittenden is a member of the Sons of the American Revolution.

LEWIS C. PETERSON (1874) has been a resident of Lucas township since his birth, November 27, 1874. He is a prominent farmer of the township, is the owner of 360 acres of its best land, and has all but forty acres under cultivation.

Our subject's parents, Christopher and Bertha (Berret) Peterson, were pioneer settlers of Lyon county, the father taking a homestead in Lucas township in 1872 and

residing on the farm until 1909, when he and his wife moved to Cottonwood to live. He died one year later and Mrs. Peterson still lives in that village. Christopher Peterson prospered during the many years of his residence in the township and at the time of his death was the owner of several hundred acres of land.

Lewis received his education in the common schools of the district and completed his schooling at the age of seventeen, after which he worked for his father until 1897; then he started farming for himself on the land which he now owns and where he has since resided. He engages in grade stock raising to a considerable extent and has succeeded in his undertakings. He is a stockholder of the Home Telephone Company of Cottonwood.

The subject of this sketch married Inga Slaan at Fergus Falls, Minnesota, February 15, 1906. She was born in Norway October 11, 1884, and her parents reside in Norway. By her marriage to Mr. Peterson she became the mother of three children, as follows: Alvena, born July 16, 1907; Betsey, born September 17, 1908; and Thorfin, born May 12, 1911. Mr. and Mrs. Peterson belong to Silo Norwegian Lutheran Church of Cottonwood.

GEORGE A. TATE (1889) is the former president of the First National Bank of Balaton, the proprietor of an elevator in that village, and a man prominently identified with the business interests of Lyon county. He has been a resident of Balaton a quarter of a century and has spent his entire life in Minnesota.

George A. Tate was born at Elba, Winona county, Minnesota, November 7, 1862, the second eldest of a family of five children born to George W. and Augusta (Day) Tate. The father, who was a native of Virginia, died April 17, 1890. The mother, a New Yorker by birth, is living. The other children of the family are Frank D., Fred, Nellie F. and Lelia A.

At Elba and St. Charles, Minnesota, young Tate spent his boyhood days and grew to manhood. He located in Balaton in May, 1889, bought grain for a few years, and then erected an elevator and engaged in business for himself, which he has since followed in addition to his banking interests. Mr. Tate

was one of the organizers of the Citizens State Bank of Balaton in 1892 and was president of the bank. When the reorganization into the First National Bank was brought about in 1903 he was chosen president of the new concern and served as such until February 1, 1912. He deals quite extensively in real estate.

Mr. Tate was a member of the Board of Education of Balaton six years, was village trustee one year and president of the Council one year. He is a member of the Maccabee and Workmen lodges.

Lillian M. Dickinson became the wife of George A. Tate at St. Charles, Minnesota. They have two children living, Harry A. and Lillian Georgia.

ANDREW A. CHRISTENSON (1872) is a former sheriff of Lyon county and one of its pioneer settlers. He served the county in the capacity of sheriff twelve years and was on the police force at Tracy five years. He is assistant sergeant at arms of the Minnesota State Senate, having received the appointment in January, 1911. He is a native of Norway, born October 19, 1863, and came to the United States when one and one-half years of age. He located in Allamakee county, Iowa, where he resided until 1872.

In the latter year our subject came to Lyon county and located in Monroe township, where his father homesteaded the southwest quarter of section 28, and resided there several years. He then started the struggle of life for himself, working at farm labor, on the section, and for two years was a fireman on the Northwestern railroad. He later served five years on the Tracy police force and was elected sheriff of Lyon in 1894 and served twelve years. He then spent four years on his farm in Monroe township and in 1910 moved to Tracy, where he has since resided.

Our subject is a son of Andrew and Annie (Thorson) Christenson, the former of whom resides in Tracy at the age of eighty-two years, and the latter is deceased. They were the parents of six children: C. A., of Roseau county, Minnesota; Andrew of this sketch; Christina, of Omaha; and Thomas, Ole and Martin, all deceased.

The subject of this review is a member of the Blue Lodge, Chapter, Commandery, Shrine and Eastern Star of the Masonic

order. He also holds membership in the K. P. lodge of Tracy.

On December 23, 1890, occurred the marriage of Mr. Christenson to Mattie Hanson, who was born in Fillmore county, Minnesota, May 22, 1863.

LAWRENCE H. FREESE (1878) is a farmer of Lynd township. He is a native of Sibley county, Minnesota, and was born July 23, 1876. The parents of our subject were Henry and Sarah Freese, the latter of whom died in May, 1911. The father is one of the early settlers in Lyon county and still resides in Lake Marshall township.

Our subject received his early education in Marshall, where he attended school until sixteen years of age. He then worked out for a while before he started farming for himself.

Mr. Freese is a member of the M. W. A. lodge. Besides farming, he engages in stock raising, including Duroc-Jersey hogs and Shorthorn cattle. He operates the southeast quarter of section 12, Lynd township. Our subject has five brothers and three sisters: Will, of Meadows, Idaho; Arthur, Noah, Edward and Roland, of Lyon county; Elsie, of Lyon county; Lydia, of Seattle, Washington; and Mary, of Meadows, Idaho.

On June 1, 1900, Mr. Freese was united in marriage to Ada Orr, a daughter of Sumner and Celia Orr, of Marshall. Mr. and Mrs. Orr are pioneer residents of Lyon county and Mrs. Freese is a native of the county. They are the parents of the following children: Allie, Helen, Gertie, Ada, Eleanor.

LEWIS L. ROWELL (1878) came with his parents to Lyon county when one year old, and with the exception of about one and one-half years he has been a continuous resident of Amiret township since that time.

Lewis was born in Waukesha county, Wisconsin, November 5, 1877. The next year he was brought by his parents, Lewis and Patience (Brooman) Rowell, to Lyon county, and the family settled on a farm in Amiret township which the father had purchased. The elder Rowell resided on the farm until his death. Lewis as a lad received the education afforded by the schools of the district and was kept busy at home helping with the

farm work. At the age of twenty the boy went to South Dakota and made his home about one year near Huron, being employed as a farm laborer. Returning to Lyon county, he remained here one year before again making a trip, this time to North Dakota and Montana, where he spent several months.

After his return to Lyon county in 1899, Mr. Rowell took up farming for himself and is today the proprietor of the southeast quarter of section 10, Amiret township, which is the farm taken by his father as a tree claim. Besides his own farm Mr. Rowell operates the O. M. Covey half section in the same township, and he engages in stock raising in addition to his general farming. He raises Durham cattle and Poland China hogs. He is also a shareholder of the Farmers Co-operative Creamery Company of Tracy.

The ceremony which united Lewis Rowell and Maggie Montgomery in the holy bonds of matrimony was performed at Redwood Falls, Minnesota, December 18, 1902. To this union have been born the following children: Harold, born April 2, 1904; Lucile, born June 15, 1906; Donald, born April 6, 1908; and Mark, born February 24, 1910. Mr. Rowell's mother is still living and resides with her daughter, Mrs. William Berry, of Amiret. Mr. Rowell is a member of the Modern Woodmen and I. O. O. F. lodges.

HUGH H. JONES (1874) has been a farmer in Custer township since 1888 and has been on his present farm, the south half of section 13, the past two years.

Mr. Jones was born in Racine, Wisconsin, May 10, 1858. His parents, Richard R. Jones and Margaret (Hughes) Jones, were both natives of Wales. The former died thirty-six years ago in Lake Crystal, Minnesota, and Mr. Jones' mother is a resident of Garvin. Hugh lived in Racine until nine years old, and then the family moved to Lake Crystal, where they lived until 1874, coming then to Lyon county and making their home on section 10 in Custer township. Hugh received his education in the public schools of Lake Crystal and in the district school of Custer. He remained on the home farm until his marriage in 1888.

Our subject was married February 13, 1888, in Custer, to Elenor Price, a native of Blue Earth county. Four children have been born

to the union: Ruth, born April 18, 1890; Mabel, born August 16, 1902; Richard and Reese, twins, born May 7, 1894.

After his marriage Mr. Jones began farming for himself in Custer township, and has been a continuous resident there since that time.

M. SULLIVAN (1879), of Marshall, was one of the town's early business men and is a leading spirit in many local enterprises. He has been president of the Marshall Board of Education for the last twenty-eight years and was mayor of the city eight successive years. He is a Democrat and served four years as postmaster of Marshall during President Cleveland's first administration.

Mr. Sullivan has been a resident of Minnesota since 1868. He spent two years in Winona, and in the spring of 1870 he opened a lumber yard in St. Charles, where he remained until he became a resident of Marshall in 1879. Upon his arrival here he engaged in the lumber business in which he has ever since been interested.

Mr. Sullivan was married at Fort Plain, Montgomery county, New York, in 1865 to Sarah M. Frink. She died in January, 1901. The second marriage of Mr. Sullivan occurred in 1903, when he wedded Mary Voss. He has two sons, Earl Y. and Emmet M.

ROBERT CUMMINGS (1876) lives on the northwest quarter of section 32, Lucas township, land he took as a homestead thirty-six years ago. He is a pioneer of that precinct and one of the few men there who still live on a homestead.

Scotland is the native land of Robert Cummings. He was born January 8, 1855, and when one and one-half years of age was brought by his parents to America. The family home was made in Wabasha county, Minnesota Territory, and there our subject grew to manhood. Upon reaching his majority in 1876 he came to Lyon county and took his homestead in Lucas township. About the same time his parents located in Redwood county, and during the next ten years Mr. Cummings divided his time between his claim and his parents' home. During that decade he farmed his land part of the time

and the rest of the time worked out in Redwood county.

Mr. Cummings took up his permanent abode on the farm in 1887 and has ever since resided there, engaged in its cultivation. He is not married and keeps a Bachelor's Hall. On numerous occasions Mr. Cummings has been called upon to serve in an official capacity. He was a member of the township board one year and was treasurer of his precinct seventeen years. For the past sixteen years he has been a member of the board of school district No. 41. Equity Lodge No. 220, A. F. & A. M., numbers Mr. Cummings among its members.

The parents of our subject are John and Isabelle (Steward) Cummings, now residents of Redwood county. Mr. Cummings is eighty-seven years old and his wife is eighty-two. Nine children were born to them, as follows: Annie, of Redwood county; Hugh, of Spokane, Washington; John A., deceased; Barbara (Mrs. William Burr), of Pueblo, Colorado; Donald, of Redwood county; Isabelle, Kate, deceased; Margaret and Robert.

JOSEPH H. CATLIN (1892) is president of the First National Bank of Cottonwood and is one of that village's leading citizens. He was born in New York State but has been a resident of Minnesota for more than fifty years. His parents were William and Sarah E. Catlin, also natives of New York State and pioneers of Goodhue county, Minnesota, in which county they both died. There were eleven children in the family, of whom the following named five are living: Joseph H., James, Nelson, Charles and Ellen.

In the county of Orleans, New York, on the eleventh of August, 1846, Joseph H. Catlin was born. When he was five or six years of age he accompanied the family to Green Lake, Wisconsin, and in 1861 located with them in Goodhue county, Minnesota. There the father bought government land, and on the farm Joseph remained until he attained his majority. Our subject then located in the little village of Cherrygrove, Goodhue county, where he conducted a general store four years. The next thirteen years of his life were passed as a merchant in the village of Roscoe, of the same county.

Mr. Catlin disposed of his interests in Roscoe and in 1892 became a resident of Cotton-

wood, where he has ever since resided. Upon his arrival he erected a building and established Cottonwood's first financial institution, the Bank of Cottonwood, a private bank. The name of the institution was changed to Security Bank in 1901, and two years later it became the First National Bank. In addition to being president of the bank at Cottonwood Mr. Catlin has other interests. He is president of the Wood Lake State Bank and is a stockholder of the North Star Implement Company of Cottonwood. He owns 560 acres of farming land in the vicinity of Cottonwood, to the management of which he gives his personal attention. For several years Mr. Catlin served as president of the Cottonwood Village Council and has taken an active interest in local affairs. He is a member of the Blue Lodge, Chapter and Eastern Star of the Masonic orders.

In Goodhue county, Minnesota, on the second day of April, 1872, Mr. Catlin was united in marriage to Catherine Miller, a native of Oak Grove, Dodge county, Wisconsin. They have two children: Charles, who is vice president of his father's bank, and Belle, who is now Mrs. L. McKechnie, of Cottonwood.

OLE S. PETERSON (1878) is a Westerheim township farmer and a pioneer of Lyon county. He owns and farms the northwest quarter of section 9.

Mr. Peterson was born in Iceland April 27, 1863. When he was fifteen years old, in 1878, he accompanied the family to America and to Lyon county. They resided on section 16, Westerheim township, one year and then the father took a homestead in Limestone township, Lincoln county. There young Peterson worked for neighboring farmers until the spring of 1886. At that time he bought his present farm, and he has ever since been engaged in farming it. The first three years he made his home with Joseph Josephson, who resides across the road from his place; then he built on the place.

Ole Peterson has three half-brothers, Frank, Joseph and Sigrud. He also has two step-brothers, Hal and George Benson. His parents are Segfinn and Segurborg (Segertson) Peterson, now residents of Minneota.

The marriage of Mr. Peterson to Mrs. Annie Johnson occurred in Winnipeg, Canada, October 27, 1907. She also was born in

Iceland, came to America in 1896, and prior to her marriage lived in Winnipeg. By a former marriage she is the mother of two daughters, Mabel and Lizzie. Mr. and Mrs. Peterson have had two children, Seg, who was born February 17, 1910, and died August 28, 1911, and Joseph S., born May 29, 1912. Mr. and Mrs. Peterson are members of the Icelandic Lutheran church of Westerheim township.

LEWIS B. LELAND (1879) is a farmer of Nordland township who has a thirty-three year residence in Lyon county to his credit. He lives upon the farm he took as a homestead in the early days, the southeast quarter of section 28.

Mr. Leland was born in Vos, Norway, December 11, 1847, a son of Bernard and Maglina (Grimestad) Leland. The family came to the United States in 1849, in company with Knute Nelson, now United States senator from Minnesota, and landed in New York on the nation's birthday. The Lelands made settlement in Dane county, Wisconsin, and in 1873 moved to Buffalo county of the same state.

It was in 1879 that Lewis B. Leland left Wisconsin and came to Lyon county. He purchased a pre-emption claim to his present farm, changed the filing to a homestead, proved up on it, and engaged in its cultivation until 1894. That year he moved to Minnesota and for the next fifteen years he worked at the carpenter's trade and conducted a wagon shop there. In 1909 Mr. Leland returned to the farm. For seven or eight years he was clerk of school district No. 25 and for four years he was a justice of the peace. He is a member of the Norwegian Lutheran church.

Mr. Leland is a man of family, having been married in Stoughton, Wisconsin, May 9, 1872, to Martha Gilderhus. She is a native of Dane county, Wisconsin, and was born October 1, 1850. Her parents, Ole and Martha (Overland) Gilderhus, were born in Vos, Norway. The children of Mr. and Mrs. Leland are Luella, Josie, Lillian, Beatrice, Marvin, Mabel and Winnifred.

ALLEN BATES (1875). Of the few people who were living in the little village of Tracy

when Allen Bates and his family located there in 1875, not one is now a resident of the city and they are the oldest settlers. Mr. Bates was engaged in business for many years but during the past eight years has been retired from active pursuits.

The gentleman whose name heads this review was born July 15, 1845, at Dudley, Massachusetts, the son of John and Mary Ann (Jacobs) Bates. The former died April 15, 1873, and the latter in January, 1871. Allen Bates spent his boyhood days attending school and made his home in his native town until nineteen years of age.

At that age, in October, 1864, he enlisted as a member of Company M, First Massachusetts Heavy Artillery, and fought for the Union cause during the closing days of the Civil War. He participated in the battle of Petersburg and several skirmishes. At the time of the assassination of President Lincoln he was in Washington, and he was on the detail that paraded at the president's funeral. Mr. Bates was mustered out at Philadelphia June 16, 1865.

After the war Mr. Bates returned to his old home and in the fall of 1866 he was married. After engaging in the shoe manufacturing business for a short time, he moved to Ames, Iowa, where for eight months he was employed at the Northwestern Railroad Company's depot; then he returned to the Bay State and engaged in his former occupation until moving to Lyon county.

In the spring of 1875 Mr. Bates became a resident of the village of Tracy, then being founded, and until the fall of 1880 he was engaged in business there. During the next seven years he lived at Orange, Massachusetts, employed as an engineer by the New Home Sewing Machine Company. Returning to Tracy in the spring of 1887, Mr. Bates engaged in the restaurant, confectionery and notion business. He discontinued the restaurant the following year, but conducted the store until 1904, when he retired. In the fire of 1893 he was burned out, but he rebuilt and continued the business.

At Dudley, Massachusetts, on September 30, 1866, Mr. Bates was united in marriage to Mary C. Wheelock, who was born in Mendon, Massachusetts, July 28, 1851. Her parents were Henry and Mary (Thornton) Wheelock. Her mother died January 9,

1861; her father December 8, 1882. Mr. and Mrs. Bates have two children, both residents of Tracy. They are Esther M., the wife of Charles G. Porter, and Clara I., the wife of O. J. Rea. Mr. and Mrs. Bates are members of the Methodist church of Tracy and he holds membership in Joe Hooker Post, G. A. R., and the Modern Woodmen lodge.

MAXWELL J. AURANDT (1878), one of the early settlers of Shelburne township, is one of the well-to-do farmers of that community.

Mr. Aurandt was born in Blair county, Pennsylvania, April 29, 1862. In 1878 he came to Lyon county with his parents and settled on the northwest quarter of section 26, Shelburne, his father taking it as a homestead. The father died October 23, 1885, and since that time Maxwell Aurandt has had charge of the old home place, besides farming the east half of the southwest quarter of section 23, which he bought in 1900.

The parents of Maxwell Aurandt were David and Susan (Bossom) Aurandt, both descended from good old German stock. David Aurandt was born in Pennsylvania January 10, 1824. His wife was born May 16, 1824, in Maryland, and still lives with her son, Maxwell, on the old homestead. To the Aurandts have been born the following named children: George W., William A., Daniel W., Samuel C., Melinda C. (Mrs. George Westbrook), all of Blair county, Pennsylvania; David E., of Carlton, Minnesota; and Maxwell, of this sketch. Two other children, Margaret E. and Jacob B., are dead.

Maxwell Aurandt was married in Balaton December 13, 1893, to Jennie V. Crouch, daughter of James Crouch, a homesteader of Rock Lake. His wife died May 1, 1895, since which time his aged mother and his niece, Anna M. Aurandt, have kept house for him.

Mr. Aurandt has held various offices in the county. He was elected treasurer of school district No. 68 at the first annual election and held the office thirteen years. He is at present clerk of the district and has held the office for the past seven years. He has served on the township board continuously for seventeen years and is the present chairman, an office he has held for six years.

ROY W. WILLIAMS (1879) is a young farmer and stock raiser residing in Lake Marshall township and owns considerable land in that township. Roy is a native of Lyon county and was born at Marshall April 28, 1879, a son of James W. and Ada F. (Webster) Williams, pioneer residents of the county. The father is a native of Connecticut and was born in 1847; the mother is a native of Ohio and was born in 1858.

Roy received his early schooling at Marshall, where he was a student until eighteen years of age. Then he took a course in the Minnesota School of Business at Minneapolis. After completing his work there he purchased the farm he now operates, the southwest quarter of section 20, Lake Marshall township. He engages in stock raising, including Durham cattle, Duroc-Jersey hogs and Shropshire sheep. He holds membership in the Masonic and Modern Woodmen lodges. Mr. Williams has been treasurer of school district No. 7 for the past six years and was road overseer in Lake Marshall township three years. He holds stock in the Lyon County Agricultural Association. Our subject has been a very successful farmer and stock raiser.

On April 24, 1901, Mr. Williams was united in marriage to Martha Bellingham, a daughter of Charles and Louise (Durst) Bellingham, pioneer residents of Marshall. Mr. Bellingham was born in England and Mrs. Bellingham in Maryland. Mrs. Williams was born in Lake Marshall township September 13, 1879. Mr. and Mrs. Williams are the parents of two children, Margaret, born August 20, 1904, and James Roy, born June 7, 1911.

CARY J. WIMER (1883) is the proprietor of a drug store in Minneota and one of that village's pioneer business men, having been engaged in business there nearly thirty years. During his long residence in Minneota Mr. Wimer has taken an active part in the affairs of his village and community, having served as president of the Village Council and held other offices of trust.

Mr. Wimer descends from two old American families who established residence in the colonies prior to the American Revolution. His paternal grandfather, John Wimer, was born in Maryland in 1785. His maternal great-grandfather, Daniel Ansley, came from

England before the war and served in the American Army under General Washington, taking part in several engagements with the British forces commanded by his brother.

The parents of our subject, Thomas R. and Melinda A. (Ansley) Wimer, were both born in Indiana county, Pennsylvania. After their marriage, they moved to Granville, Ohio, where the former studied for the ministry and was later ordained as a Baptist minister. He enlisted in the Forty-sixth Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry, Company I, of which regiment he was a hospital steward and later chaplain. He died while taking part in Sherman's march to the sea and was buried in the National Cemetery in Georgia. Mrs. Wimer resides in Dayton, Pennsylvania. They were the parents of the following three children: Cary J., of this sketch; Ida M. (Mrs. Thomas J. Starr), of Kittanning, Pennsylvania; Thomas H., who died in Marshall April 17, 1907.

To these parents Cary J. Wimer was born October 6, 1854, in Indiana county, Pennsylvania. Cary spent his boyhood days at home and attended school, fitting himself for a teacher. He attended the Dayton and Glade Run Academies one term each and spent two summers in the State Normal School in Indiana county. He then taught a number of years in Pennsylvania and one year in Kansas. He spent the winter of 1881 studying medicine, and the next year, in company with his brother, Thomas H., he purchased a drug store at Plumville, Pennsylvania. A year later the brothers sold out and moved to Minneota, where they purchased a drug store. In the meantime, our subject was teaching school and studying pharmacy through correspondence with the National Institute of Pharmacy, from which he was graduated.

The Wimer brothers conducted the store in partnership two years. Then Cary purchased his brother's interest and has conducted the store alone since. He has one of the largest drug stores in the county and carries a complete, up-to-date stock. He also has other interests. He is a stockholder and a director of the Farmers & Merchants Bank of Minneota, owns a farm in Yellow Medicine county, and a quarter section of land in Kanabec county, Minnesota. He has been a school officer of Minneota for the past twelve years and has served as justice

of the peace. Mr. Wimer is a member of the Masonic and Modern Woodmen lodges.

Mr. Wimer was married near Frostburg, Maryland, June 23, 1886, to Alice M. Durst, a native of that state and a daughter of Michael Durst, who settled near Marshall in grasshopper days. Michael Durst returned to his native state and a number of years later came back to Minnesota and died at the home of his son near Preston, Minnesota. Mr. and Mrs. Wimer are the parents of the following named five children: June L., Eva F., Leon A., Homer E. and Alice C. Their daughter June L. attended Carleton College and is now a music teacher; Eva F. is a school teacher and also attended Carleton College; Leon A. is a student in the Pharmacy Department of Highland Park College, of Des Moines, Iowa.

LUDVIG E. LARSON (1876), who owns and farms the southeast quarter of section 18, Lucas township, has lived in Lyon county since he was three years of age. He is a prosperous farmer and has taken a leading part in the affairs of his community.

His parents, Haldor and Engel Marie (Anderson) Larson, were born in Norway in 1849, came to the United States when children, and were married in Wisconsin. They came to Lyon county in 1876 and homesteaded the farm now owned by their son. The mother died on the homestead in the spring of 1880 and the father two years later. There are two other children in the family, Theodore, of Broderick, Saskatchewan, Canada, and Bergene (Mrs. Julius Anderson), of Tacoma, Washington.

Ludvig was born in Jackson county, Wisconsin, July 28, 1873. He came to Lyon county with his parents in 1876 and until their deaths made his home with them. Thereafter until he was thirteen he lived with an uncle, John Anderson, and two years after that with another uncle, George Anderson. At the age of fifteen he began to make his own way in the world and has since been farming except for a time when he worked at the livery and dray business and in a hardware store in Cottonwood.

The homestead had remained in the family and in the spring of 1896 Ludvig and his brother began its cultivation. The partnership continued until 1911, when our subject

purchased his brother's interests and became sole owner of the farm. All the improvements the farm has were made by the brothers.

Mr. Larson was one of the organizers of school district No. 89 and he has been clerk of the district since its organization. He served as assessor of his township two years and was a member of the township board four years, three years as its chairman. He is now serving his second term as township clerk. He and his family are members of the United Lutheran church.

Mr. Larson was married in Cottonwood November 28, 1895, to Amelia A. Roberts, who was born in Yellow Medicine county February 13, 1876. Her father is Louis Dibble, but she was adopted by Mr. and Mrs. John Roberts. Mr. Larson and his wife have eight children, named as follows: Harvard Eugene, born October 29, 1896; Alfred Leslie, born March 10, 1898; Amy Luella, born July 5, 1900; Hazel Eunice, born March 15, 1903; Edward Ludvig, born February 20, 1905; Walter John, born March 6, 1907; Mildred Ruth, born February 14, 1909; Elfreda Marie, born December 18, 1911.

MRS. C. A. JOHNSON (1878) is the widow of Charles A. Johnson. She has lived in Lyon county thirty-four years and resides on the old homestead, the northwest quarter of section 2, Coon Creek township.

Mrs. Johnson was born in Vällers, Norway, September 28, 1850, the daughter of Nels and Mary (Olson) Nelson, both of whom died in this country. Miss Betsey Nelson attended school in her native country until sixteen years of age and then, in 1866, accompanied her parents to America. The family located in Winona county, Minnesota, and there two years later Miss Nelson became the wife of Charles A. Johnson, the date of the marriage being October 22, 1868.

Charles A. Johnson was born in Stockholm, Sweden, May 4, 1840. At the age of twelve years he came to America, spent two years in Chicago, and then until the outbreak of the war resided in Winona county, Minnesota. He enlisted in 1861 in the First Minnesota Light Artillery and served three years and nine months in the service. After the war Mr. Johnson again settled in Winona county, bought land there, and farmed until

moving to Lyon county in 1878. He took a homestead in Coon Creek township and engaged in farming continuously until his death on July 25, 1908.

Since the death of her husband Mrs. Johnson has made his home on the farm, which is conducted by her sons, Carl and Harry. They raise Jersey and Shorthorn cattle and Duroc-Jersey hogs. The family owns 250 acres of land in Coon Creek. Mrs. Johnson has stock in the Farmers Mutual Telephone Company.

Seven children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Johnson, as follows: Mary Ann, born September 14, 1869; Emma, born May 25, 1872, died May 11, 1908; Lillie, born February 19, 1878; John, born December 17, 1880; Carl, born February 20, 1885; Oscar, born May 8, 1886, died May 10, 1901; Harry, born March 24, 1892.

ARTHUR FREESE (1879), of Lake Marshall township, was born in Sibley county, Minnesota, November 15, 1872. His parents were Henry and Sarah (Schmidt) Freese. The latter died in May, 1911, and the former resides in Lyon county part of the year, spending the winters in California. Arthur attended the Marshall schools until twenty years of age, after which he worked for his father on the farm nine years.

In 1902 he purchased from his father the southeast quarter of section 7, Lake Marshall township, where he has resided continuously since. In 1910 he erected a fine residence on his farm and in 1911 a fine barn. Mr. Freese is chairman of the Township Board of Supervisors, to which he was elected in March, 1911, and was a member of the board previous to that time. He was road overseer in Lake Marshall township several years. He holds membership in the Masonic lodge of Marshall. In addition to farming, Mr. Freese raises considerable stock, including full-blooded Shorthorn cattle and Duroc-Jersey hogs. He makes a specialty of selling blooded stock for breeding purposes.

On October 12, 1910, occurred the marriage of Mr. Freese to Minnie E. Mellenthin, a daughter of August and Anna Mellenthin. Mrs. Freese was born November 12, 1885, in Lynd township. She is the second of a family of three children.

BJORN B. GISLASON (1879) is a lawyer and real estate dealer of Minneota and has lived in Lyon county for the past thirty-three years. He was county attorney in 1905 and 1906. Mr. Gislason is a native of Iceland and was born May 29, 1873, coming to Lyon county with his parents in 1879 and locating in Westerheim township. He is a son of Bjorn and Adalborg (Johnson) Gislason. The former died in July, 1906, aged seventy-nine years; Mrs. Gislason resides on the old home place with her son, J. B. Gislason. They are the parents of nine children, six boys and three girls, as follows: Eyjolfur Bjornson (Mrs. John Snidal), of Westerheim township; Olive and Walter, of Badger, Minnesota; John B., Mrs. S. J. Holm, Bjorn B., Haldor B., a teacher in the University of Minnesota; and Arni B.

Bjorn made his home with his parents on the farm for several years, attending the country schools, the Minneota schools and the Marshall High School. He served in the Spanish-American War, in Company A, Thirteenth Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, and saw service in the Philippines, his regiment participating in thirty-two engagements.

After his discharge from the army Mr. Gislason again took up his studies, graduating in 1900 from the Law Department of the University of Minnesota. After his graduation from the university Mr. Gislason located in Lake Benton and practised his profession for one and a half years. He then moved to Minneota, where he has since been engaged in the practice of law. In 1900 he assisted in the organization of the Globe Land and Loan Company, capitalized at \$50,000. This is one of Minneota's principal enterprises, the firm doing a thriving business. In 1900 its land sales amounted to half a million dollars. There are two branch offices, one at Elbow Lake and one at Badger, Minnesota. The law firm has been conducted under the name of Gislason & Gislason since January, 1911, when our subject admitted A. B. Gislason. The subject of this review is a member of the Masonic, Knights of Pythias and Modern Woodmen lodges.

Mr. Gislason was married in Minneapolis October 7, 1904, to Joan T. Peterson, a native of Iceland. They have three children, Bjorn B., Rose and Harry Sidney Payson.

JOHN J. LAUDENSLAGER (1877), of Marshall, is one of the oldest business men of that city, having conducted a saloon there for the past thirty-five years. Besides his saloon business he engages extensively in the ice business with his son, Richard S. He and his sons own 400 acres of Lyon county real estate and he owns his residence in the city, the ice houses with twenty-seven acres of land, and other lots.

John Laudenslager was born in Gratz, Dauphin county, Pennsylvania, August 24, 1845, and resided there until he was sixteen years of age. In August, 1861, he enlisted in Company A, Fiftieth Pennsylvania Regiment, at Harrisburg, and served a two-year enlistment. He located at St. Paul in 1863 and re-enlisted in Company A, Fifth Minnesota, and served as a member of that regiment until the close of the war. He took part in the battles of Gettysburg, the second battle of Bull Run and Fredericksburg and participated in the campaigns in Missouri and Tennessee.

After the war Mr. Laudenslager located at New Ulm, Minnesota, to which place his parents had in the meantime removed, and there he resided until 1875, engaged in the saloon business. He settled in Winona and conducted a saloon and hotel until burned out two years later. He lost everything he had in the fire and moved to Marshall in 1877 with just \$2.00 to his name. Until February, 1878, he tended bar in a Marshall saloon, and the next month he engaged in the saloon business on his own account in a little shack on the site he now occupies, the building being destroyed by fire in November, 1892. He built his present building in 1893. Soon after locating in Marshall he engaged in the ice business in a small way, the beginning of his present prosperous business. Mr. Laudenslager's son Charles conducts the saloon and his son Richard S. is his partner in the ice business. Mr. Laudenslager is a member of D. F. Markham Post, G. A. R.

Our subject comes from an old Pennsylvania family of English origin. The parents, Jonas and Sarah (Smith) Laudenslager, were born in Pennsylvania and their ancestors had lived there for several generations. The family located at New Ulm, Minnesota, on January 1, 1863, only a few months after the town had been attacked during the Sioux

War, and both parents lived there until their deaths. Mrs. Laudenslager died June 11, 1872, the anniversary of both her birth and marriage. Jonas Laudenslager was a prominent citizen of New Ulm. He was probate judge of Brown county several years and was one of those instrumental in the organization of the first Lutheran church in the city. He died at New Ulm in 1899.

In the Laudenslager family were thirteen children, of whom the following named eight are living: Harry, John J., Wilhelmina (Mrs. Conrad Hamm), of St. Paul; Elizabeth (Mrs. Richard Pferle), of New Ulm; Mary (Mrs. Peter Penning), of New Ulm; Sarah (Mrs. Tobias Pferle), of New Ulm; Jonas, of St. Paul; Riley (Mrs. John Sigler), of Brookings, South Dakota.

ARNE SWENNES (1875) owns and farms 400 acres of land in Eidsvold township and Burton township, Yellow Medicine county, the home place being the southeast quarter of section 2. He has been a resident of Lyon county thirty-eight years and is rated as one of the substantial farmers of his township.

Mr. Swennes was born in Nordre Amdal, Valters, Norway, September 10, 1858, and in June, 1870, he came with his parents to America. The family lived in Walworth county, Wisconsin, five years and came to Lyon county in 1875. The northwest quarter of section 2, Eidsvold township, was taken as a homestead, and on that farm Arne lived with his parents twenty-five years.

In 1900 Mr. Swennes moved to his present farm, which he had purchased eight years before. He built a home on the place, otherwise improved it, and has since resided there. With the help of his five sons he farms his entire holdings. During the Alliance and Peoples Party days Mr. Swennes took a prominent part in local politics. He has held several township and school offices.

On the old homestead in Eidsvold, on June 8, 1892, Mr. Swennes was united in marriage to Effie A. Doane. She was born in Pepin county, Wisconsin, June 16, 1870. Mr. and Mrs. Swennes have five sons, Sidney, Olaf, Harold, Arne and Lee.

Ole A. and Ingrid (Ulvstad) Swennes were the parents of our subject. The father died in Eidsvold in 1906 and the mother in 1908.

They were pioneer settlers of the township and prominent in its social, business and political affairs. There are five living children of the family.

EDWARD ANDERSON (1879) is one of the early day settlers of Shelburne township, having lived continuously on the one farm for a third of a century. His home is on section 5, a couple of miles north of Florence.

Mr. Anderson was born in Norway February 14, 1848, and he lived in his native land until attaining his majority. He came to America in 1869 and lived ten years in Fillmore county, Minnesota. Upon his arrival to Lyon county in 1879 he purchased from the railroad company the west half of the southeast quarter of section 5, Shelburne township, and later he bought the west half of the northeast quarter of section 8. He was the purchaser of the first railroad land sold in the township and it cost him \$4.00 per acre.

When he came to make his home in Shelburne township it was largely prairie land, the township had not been organized, and the nearest postoffice was Marshfield, on Lake Benton. His first home was a little 14x16 feet shack. He has prospered and become one of the substantial farmers of the community.

Mr. Anderson has served as a member of both the Board of Supervisors of his township and of his school district. The credit for the establishment of rural mail route No. 2 out of Tyler belongs to Mr. Anderson, he having spent time and money in bringing about the service. He also assisted in securing the establishment of the first telephone line in the vicinity. Mr. Anderson is a member of the Masonic, Woodmen and Workmen lodges.

Edward Anderson is the oldest child in a family of six children born to Andrew and Karen (Evenson) Christenson, who came to America in the seventies and died in their adopted country. The other children of the family are Karen (Mrs. Bore Larsen), of Florence; Evan Berg, Christina (Mrs. Hans Benson), of Shelburne; Andrew Anderson Berg and Carl Anderson.

Our subject is a man of family. He was married in Fillmore county, Minnesota, August 7, 1869, to Mathea Johnson, a native

of Norway. As a result of this union seven children have been born, as follows: Karen (Mrs. Chris Miller), Olaus, Amelia (Mrs. W. Innes), of Tracy; Anton, of Florence; Edwin, Martin and John, who reside at home.

ORVIN J. REA (1877) is editor and proprietor of the Tracy Weekly Herald and a former postmaster of that city. He is an old-time newspaper man of Lyon county and has devoted his entire life to the printing and publishing business. He has taken a leading part in the affairs of his county and city and is rated one of Tracy's most progressive citizens.

In Oshkosh, Wisconsin, on March 7, 1862, occurred the nativity of Orvin J. Rea. He is one of a family of eight children, the others being Ida (deceased), Art A., Lilly (deceased), Merch C., Clyde W. (deceased), Pearl E. and Jesse G. The parents of these children were James A. and Lucinda (Barber) Rea, the former born in Cumberland county, Pennsylvania, and the latter near Akron, Ohio. They were pioneers of Oshkosh, having settled there in the fifties. The father died March 31, 1894; the mother August 20, 1883.

In the spring of 1870 Orvin accompanied his parents from Oshkosh to Sparta, Wisconsin, and there he spent his boyhood days. He was educated in the Sparta High School and among his classmates were John J. Esch, now a congressman; James Gillette, later governor of California; Judge Bunn and other men distinguished later in life. After his school days young Rea worked at the printer's trade for a time in the office of the Monroe County Republican and in 1877 he accompanied his parents to Lyon county and located with them in Marshall.

When the Lyon County News was established in Marshall by Todd & Edes in the spring of 1879 he became the first printer on that paper, and a little later he went to Currie, then the county seat of Murray county, and accepted a position on the Currie Pioneer. He removed to Marshall in the winter of 1881 and for the next three and one-half years worked for C. F. Case on the Marshall Messenger. He had charge of the Temperance Review job office at Minneapolis for a time, worked over a year for C. C. Whitney on the Marshall News-Mes-

senger, and spent one summer in Chicago, working in printing offices and as a substitute printer on the Times when Story was the editor.

It was in February, 1885, that Mr. Rea located in Tracy and first became a publisher. At that time he bought the Tracy Trumpet in partnership with Harry C. Buckingham. Six months later the firm was dissolved and Mr. Rea became sole proprietor, continuing the publication until 1892, when he sold to V. W. Lothrop. In September, 1894, Mr. Rea founded the Tracy Weekly Herald and has ever since conducted it.

During his long residence in Tracy Mr. Rea has been identified with many local enterprises. He was made postmaster during the second administration of President Cleveland and served a four-year term, and he was president of the City Council in 1892. He was one of the organizers of the Tracy Saving and Loan Association, was elected its first president, and has ever since held that office. He was also one of the incorporators of the Houston Pen Company, formed to manufacture the fountain pen invented by W. H. Houston, of Tracy.

Mr. Rea is a man of family. He was married at Tracy on May 19, 1888, to Clara I. Bates. She was born in Dudley, Massachusetts, and is a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Allen Bates, who homesteaded land in Monroe township in 1876. Six children—three boys and three girls—have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Rea, as follows: Nona, Elgin A., Doris, Noel B., Lois and Leon D.

NIELS F. LARSON (1883) is the proprietor of a general merchandise store at Lynd, carrying dry goods, groceries, crockery, glassware, shoes, etc. He has been a resident of Lyon county since he was fourteen years old, and until buying the store in the present year he has been engaged in farming.

Mr. Larson was born in Denmark on the last day of the year 1869, the son of Peter and Stine (Peterson) Larson, now residents of Nordland township. In 1883 he came to America with his parents, and his first home in the New World was in the old town of Lynd. For two seasons he herded cattle and then for several years he worked out as a farm hand.

In 1893 Mr. Larson was married and started farming for himself. For two years he rented land in Lyons township and then he bought the northwest quarter of section 2 of that township. On that place he farmed and made his home until 1910. He then moved to section 33, Lynd township, having bought 200 acres of land there the year before, and his home is still there. In May, 1912, he traded 431 acres of land in Lyons and Lynd townships for the stock of goods in Lynd and is now in charge of the store. He also conducts his farm on section 33 and raises and ships cattle. He raises thoroughbred Polled Angus cattle and Duroc-Jersey hogs. His farm is a place of great historic interest, having been the place designated as the first county seat of Lyon county, known as Upper Lynd. There the first court house was built and there Rev. Ellis had his store.

In the city of Marshall, on March 15, 1893, Mr. Larson was married to Lottie G. Watson. She is a native of the county and was born July 4, 1874. Her parents, Gordon and Mary Watson, natives of Ohio, were among the very early settlers of Lyon county. Mr. Watson came in 1869 and took as a homestead claim the northwest quarter of section 2, Lyons township. The family moved to the claim the following year and lived in the county until their deaths. The following named seven children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Larson: Oliver G., Olive F., Iva E., Ida P., Elva M., Loyal W. and Ruth.

FERDINAND AMUNDSON (1878), farmer of Nordland township, is a native of Lyon county and a son of pioneer settlers, Gregar and Annie (Furgeson) Amundson. He was born in the township of Nordland March 9, 1878, received a district school education, and grew to manhood on his father's homestead. Two years were spent working in the Furgeson blacksmith shop in Minneota; except that he has always lived in his native township. In the fall of 1911 he rented the west half of the southwest quarter of section 27 from his father and started farming. He now has charge of a 160-acre farm and is meeting with success.

Mr. Amundson was married in Island Lake township June 27, 1905, to Cora Christenson. She was born in that township May 17, 1884, and is a daughter of Peter and Alma (Russel) Christenson. Her parents were born in Denmark and Wisconsin, respectively, and now live in Island Lake township. Three children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Amundson, as follows: Vivian, born April 11, 1907; Arlo, born June 10, 1908; and Laneda, born October 13, 1910. Mr. and Mrs. Amundson are members of the Norwegian Lutheran church of Minneota.

OLUF ANDERSON (1876) has been a continuous resident of Monroe township, on the southeast quarter of section 28, since his birth on February 26, 1876. His parents, Ole and Thora (Olson Bjerkrud) Anderson, were both natives of Norway and came to America in 1869, residing in Fillmore county, Minnesota, two years before locating in Lyon county, on the land which Oluf now owns. The trip from Fillmore county was made in a prairie schooner, and most of the summer of 1871 was spent in looking for a suitable location.

Oluf received his education in the country schools of the township and at the age of fifteen completed his schooling, but remained on the farm, helping his father. At the age of twenty-three he rented the place and in company with his brother Anton ran the farm, afterward renting it alone until coming into full ownership when his father died. He has since been successfully managing the farm and engaging in stock raising.

The marriage of Oluf Anderson and Ida Amalia Anderson occurred October 30, 1901. To this union were born three children: Oscar Edgar, born July 6, 1902; Ruth Christine, born June 12, 1904; and Theodore Arthur, born December 3, 1905. Mrs. Anderson is also a native of Lyon county and was born October 13, 1882, a daughter of Ellef and Christi Anderson, pioneer settlers of Monroe township.

Mr. Anderson is a member of the Farmers Club of Tracy, and belongs to the Norwegian Lutheran church of Monroe township. One sister of our subject is living, Bertha (Mrs. H. C. Olson), of Petersburg, North Dakota. His mother died in 1909.

CHARLES F. TIBBIT (1873), a well-to-do farmer of Island Lake township, was born in Wabasha county, Minnesota, November 12, 1861. He lived on the Tibbit farm in that county twelve years, and during that time received several years' schooling in the district.

When the boy was twelve years of age, in 1872, his parents moved to Lyon county, Minnesota, and the father took as a homestead the south half of the south half of section 6, Island Lake township, and there Charles finished his education and assisted his father with the farm work. At the age of twenty years he bought a pre-emption claim of eighty acres on section 8, later changed it to a homestead, and proved up on the same. He has since lived on the place and has recently purchased an additional eighty acres on section 6 and eighty acres on section 5, making him the owner of 240 acres of the township's best land. He has devoted much time to the raising of Durham cattle and Poland China hogs. Mr. Tibbit has a fine home.

The subject of this sketch was married in Lyon county to Eliza McCurdy, the wedding occurring March 25, 1884. She was born in New York and is a daughter of James and Anna McCurdy. Four children have been born to the union: Lee E., Mae E., Ada C. and Flora A.

Mr. Tibbit was clerk of school district No. 45 twenty years and is now a member of the township board.

FREDERICK K. WEIKLE (1878), prominent in the life of the town for more than thirty years, is a retired business man of Marshall. During the last ten years Mr. Weikle has erected four residences in the city, all of which are occupied by tenants. He looks after this property and oversees the work on his farm in Stanley township. The Weikles are members and active attendants of the Congregational church.

Our subject is a son of David and Sarah (Harnais) Weikle, natives of Germany and Maine, respectively. He was born in Allentown, Lehigh county, Pennsylvania, March 7, 1843. The father was a butcher and Fred learned the business at an early

age. When the war broke out he enlisted at Philadelphia as a team driver in the Ninth New York Battery for three months' service. Later he served as watchman for the government over the warehouses and docks at Acqui Landing on the Potomac, eventually joining the civil engineer corps and driving teams until the close of the war. Returning home after the war, our subject was in the cattle and hog business for six months and then went to Chicago and ran a butcher shop for a Chicago firm.

Mr. Weikle left Chicago in 1866 and returned to his native town. November 10, 1866, he married Barbara Kinckiner, of Mertztown, Pennsylvania, a daughter of Henry and Julia Ann (Pierpont) Kinckiner, the ceremony taking place at Allentown. He then engaged in the tobacco manufacturing business for a few years, later opened another butcher shop, sold out in 1876, and went to Dixon, Illinois, for the winter. The next spring he worked for his brother in Plainview, Minnesota.

In the spring of 1878 Mr. Weikle moved to Marshall and bought a little frame building on the present site of Richtmyer's pool hall, in which he conducted a meat market several years. Mr. Weikle then conducted a shop in Redfield, South Dakota, one year. Returning to Marshall, he opened a shop on the north side of Main street and when the Great Northern road came he took the contract for furnishing the construction crews with meat, which he held until the road reached Sioux Falls. Then he went to Tennessee, Virginia and Kentucky, and was meat contractor for the L. & N. railroad two years. Returning to Marshall, Mr. Weikle bought the brick building he now owns, and his son Harry ran a market there for a time. Mr. Weikle meanwhile engaged in buying and shipping stock, a business which he followed until ten years ago, when he retired from active work.

Mr. and Mrs. Frederick Weikle are the parents of the following children: Harry O. and Frank M., of Sturgis, Saskatchewan, Canada; George E., of Dickinson, North Dakota; Anna L. (Mrs. Harry Addison), of Marshall; and Malcolm T., cashier of the First National Bank of Pelican Rapids, Minnesota. Mr. and Mrs. Weikle also brought up from infancy the two sons of

Mrs. Weikle's sister, Margaret Crabtree, who died in Marshall when the boys were little. The boys are Sam H. and Will T. Crabtree, now of Enid, Montana.

HENRY NELSON (1876), a farmer of Lucas township and a continuous resident of the county since 1876, was born in Fillmore county, Minnesota, March 20, 1870, and is a son of Evar and Aase (Olson) Nelson, both of whom are now deceased.

The parents were natives of Norway, and some idea of the times in which they immigrated to this country can be gained from the fact that Mr. Nelson was on the ocean nineteen weeks when coming to this country. He landed in New Orleans in 1845 and served five years in the Mexican War, afterwards coming North and locating in Wisconsin. On his journey he visited St. Anthony Falls, Minnesota, and at that time Minnesota was still a territory and there was a single store on the present site of St. Paul. Evar Nelson was married in Wisconsin, and after a few years' residence in Fillmore county, Minnesota, he moved to Western Minnesota and purchased land in Yellow Medicine county and resided there four years.

In the spring of 1876 the Nelson family came to Lyon county and took a homestead in Lucas township. There the parents resided until their deaths, and the old homestead is now operated by their son Iver. The subject of this sketch came to Lyon county with his parents when six years old, and he attended the district schools until seventeen years of age. Afterward the boy helped his father until twenty-two years of age and then engaged in farming for himself on the place which he now owns, the northeast quarter of section 11. He has a well-improved place and is making a decided success of stock raising in addition to his general farming. Mr. Nelson has served several years as assessor of the township, as a director of school district No. 19, and for several years he was road overseer.

On November 11, 1891, our subject was married at Cottonwood to Minnie Prestegaard, a native of Yellow Medicine county. She was born November 18, 1871. Mr. and Mrs. Nelson are the parents of the

following children: Adelia Louise, born October 24, 1893; Gerhardt, born June 29, 1895; Hulda, born November 16, 1897; and Rudolph, born December 5, 1899. Mr. and Mrs. Nelson are members of Silo Norwegian Lutheran Church of Cottonwood.

PETER ELBERS (1883). One of the old residents of Lyon county and a merchant of Ghent is Peter Elbers. He came to Lyon county in 1883 and spent several years working on farms near Ghent. He then went to Marshall and in partnership with Will Boerboom conducted a meat market three years. Returning to Ghent, he opened a meat market, later adding a stock of merchandise, and has since conducted the business.

Peter Elbers is a son of Theodore and Johanna (Tichlován) Elbers and was born December 13, 1853, in Holland. There are seven children in this family living, namely: Bernard, Dena, Mena, Dora and Johanna, all of whom reside in Holland, and Peter, of this sketch. A daughter, Mary, is deceased. The parents died in the old country. Our subject is a member of the Catholic church and the Catholic Order of Foresters. He owns the southwest quarter of section 12, Amiret township, a quarter section of land near Aberdeen, South Dakota, and several buildings and lots in the village of Ghent.

On July 3, 1889, Rosa Lee Decock became the wife of Mr. Elbers at Ghent. She is a native of Belgium. Mr. and Mrs. Elbers are the parents of four children, as follows: Annie, Leo, John and Henry. Another child, Mary, died in infancy.

OLE E. RYE (1879), one of the large land owners of Eidsvold township and a successful farmer of that precinct, has lived in Lyon county since he was a child eight and one-half years of age. He has taken a leading part in the affairs of his community and is rated among the substantial men of northwestern Lyon county. He started without a dollar and has won his way to the top. He is the owner of 560 acres of land in the township, on sections 22, 23 and 33. For a number of years he farmed his entire holdings, but

the present year he has rented out a part of his land.

The parents of our subject, Esten and Margaret (Ranon) Rye, came to Lyon county from Norway in 1879 and took as a homestead claim the southwest quarter of section 34, Nordland township, where they have ever since resided. He is eighty-seven years old and she is eighty-one. There are in the family the following named six children: Andrew E., who farms the old homestead; Annie (Mrs. Charles Furgeson), of Barnes county, North Dakota; Inger (Mrs. O. O. Dovre), of Eidsvold; Mary (Mrs. A. B. Ruksted), of Florence, South Dakota; Julia (Mrs. Harry W. Hecket), of Spokane, Washington; and Ole E., of this review.

Ole E. Rye was born at Norde Urdhal, Valdres, Norway, December 7, 1870. He came to America and to Lyon county with his parents in 1879 and until he was seventeen years old lived on the Nordland township homestead. In 1887 and 1888 he was in Barnes county, North Dakota, working on farms. Returning to Lyon county in the fall of 1888, he rented the farm in Eidsvold where he now lives, the southeast quarter of section 22. Two years later he bought the farm, and he has since added to his holdings until he has become one of the largest land owners of the precinct.

Seventeen years ago Mr. Rye was elected a member of the Township Board of Supervisors and served two years. Eight years ago he was again elected to the office and has held it continuously since, having been chairman of the board four years of that time. For the past two years he has been a member of the Lyon County Republican Committee. He is a member of the Modern Woodmen lodge and of the Norwegian Lutheran church of Minneota.

Inger Swennes became the wife of Ole E. Rye on June 28, 1894, the ceremony taking place at the Swennes home in Eidsvold township. Mrs. Rye was born in Norway and came to America with her parents when a child. The family lived in Wisconsin five years and came to Lyon county in 1876, taking homestead and tree claims in Eidsvold township. Ole A. and Ingrid Swennes, her parents, are deceased. Eight children have been born to

Mr. and Mrs. Rye. They are Knute, Ernest O., Harold, Ida, Lloyd, Evelyn, Bjorn and Mabel.

JAMES MCGINN (1881), of Minneota, is a dealer in real estate, makes loans and writes insurance. He is a member of the Board of County Commissioners, an office to which he was elected in November, 1910. James McGinn was born in Ireland on January 11, 1863. His birth in Ireland came about in this way: His father and mother, who were natives of Ireland, came to America when children and settled in New York City, where they were married. In 1863 they returned to Ireland to take charge of the old home place and while in that country the subject of this review was born.

Before returning to the United States Mr. and Mrs. McGinn, Sr., visited Scotland and England. They again located in New York City, but in 1867 moved to California, where they resided until 1872, at which time they returned to New York City. The family remained in the metropolis until 1881, when they moved to Lyon county, locating near Minneota. The parents of our subject were Patrick and Sarah (McBeth) McGinn. They settled on a farm in Westerheim township, where the father was accidentally killed in 1889; the mother died the following spring.

James McGinn received his early education in New York and when eighteen years of age accompanied his parents to Lyon county, where he assisted his parents on the farm until 1892. That year he moved to Minneota, where he conducted a general store four years, during which time he was postmaster. After his term expired he went to Flandreau, South Dakota, where he worked a year. Then he returned to Minneota and opened a cigar factory. In 1908 Mr. McGinn disposed of the factory and engaged in the real estate, loan and insurance business with Anton Heymans, the firm name being Heymans & McGinn.

When a young man and before he had left the farm for good, Mr. McGinn conducted a cigar factory at Spencer, Iowa, which he sold in 1889. He also worked one and one-half years in a cigar factory at Watertown, South Dakota.

Mr. McGinn was married at Minneota on June 20, 1893, to Margaret Kiley, a native of Canada and a daughter of James Kiley, who settled in Lincoln county in 1881. Mr. and Mrs. McGinn are the parents of the following five children: Patrick, a graduate of the Minneota High School; James, Ellen, Sarah, Arthur.

Mr. McGinn is a member of the Minneota School Board and was president of the Village Council in 1907. He is a member of the M. W. A., Yeomen and K. C. lodges.

W. R. GREGG (1880) is one of the early business men of Lynd and postmaster of that village the past seventeen years. Mr. Gregg is a native of Vermont and was born at Valatia July 30, 1854, a son of Rev. Oren C. and Betsey (Mosher) Gregg, natives of Vermont. Our subject spent his early days in several places in Vermont, accompanying his parents to the different pastorates which his father held. He received a good education, attending high school, the Montpelier, Vermont, Seminary and Fort Edward Institute of New York. His father died in 1902 and the mother in the fall of 1879.

In 1880 Mr. Gregg, at the age of twenty-six years, came to Lyon county, to the farms of his brothers, O. C. and Leslie Gregg, in Lynd township. His first summer in the county was spent working at the carpenter's trade. He worked for F. S. Wetherbee at Marshall for a short time and then went to Minneapolis for a short sojourn.

Returning to Lyon county, Mr. Gregg conducted a store at Camden for Fred Healy, of Marshall, later buying it and running it for five years. The following eight years he was employed on the Coteau Farm in Lynd township. In November, 1895, he moved to Lynd and purchased the F. W. Cowham store, which he has since conducted. His commission as postmaster dates from January, 1896.

Mr. Gregg has two half-brothers, Oren C., of Lynd township, and David A., of Boston, Massachusetts. He is unmarried.

JAMES C. BURCHARD (1878) is the general land agent for the Chicago &

Northwestern Railroad Company, with headquarters at Marshall. His territory embraces Minnesota and North and South Dakota east of the Missouri river. He is a pioneer of Lyon county and has spent over thirty years of his life in the employ of the railroad company which he now represents.

In Clinton, New York, on August 13, 1851, James C. Burchard was born. His parents were Henry M. and Eliza H. (Clark) Burchard, both natives of New York State. On his father's side he descends from one of the oldest American families, a Burchard having come to America in 1635 and made settlement in Connecticut.

In the fall of 1866 young Burchard accompanied his parents to Winona, Minnesota, and a few years later the family home was made in Northern Illinois. After securing his education James began work for the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad Company in a clerical capacity, and he has been connected with that corporation ever since. He located in Marshall in the fall of 1878, remained one year, and then for a year was station agent at Watertown, Dakota Territory, opening the station when the railroad reached that place. He then made his home in Chicago and for several years was in the general office of the Chicago & Northwestern Company.

Mr. Burchard again became a resident of Marshall in 1884. At that time he entered the land office of what was then known as the Winona & St. Peter Railroad Company as cashier. His father was at the time the general land agent for the railroad at that point and had been since the office was opened. Upon the death of his father in July, 1898, James Burchard succeeded him as general agent and he has since held the position. The railroad land office was established on the site it now occupies in 1876. For a number of years the office was located in a two-story frame building which was burned. Then the present brick block, which also housed the United States Land Office, was erected.

For several years Mr. Burchard served as a member of the City Council and he was mayor of Marshall two terms. He is a prominent member of the Masonic or-

ders, holding membership in the Shriners, Scottish Rites and Royal Arcanum. He is a Thirty-second degree Mason and is the grand commander of the state organization.

Mr. Burchard was married in Chicago in 1879 to Sidonia M. Schupp, a native of that city. They have three children: Simon J., of St. Paul; John E., Jr., and William S., of Marshall.

MARTIN C. LARSON (1877) in partnership with his brother, Anton S. Larson, farms 540 acres of land in Monroe township, 320 acres of this being the estate left them by their father, Hans T. Larson, who died August 7, 1908.

Hans T. Larson was born in Norway April 11, 1846, and came to the United States in 1866, locating in Fillmore county and making that his home until 1871. Then he came to Lyon county and took as a homestead the west half of the northeast quarter of section 10, Monroe township. The next year he took the southeast quarter of section 10 as a tree claim. He experienced the hardships of the early days, the grasshopper scourge and the terrible blizzards of the early eighties. He prospered and was well off at the time of his death. He was active in township affairs. Turi (Gullickson) Larson, his wife, was born in Norway June 16, 1848, and came to America in 1870, where she was married two years later, in Monroe township. She died in 1893.

Martin C. Larson was born on the Monroe township homestead March 5, 1876, and has lived on the farm ever since. He was educated in the school of district No. 35 and in the Tracy High School. He remained on the farm and worked for his father until the latter's death, since which time Martin and his brother have had charge. Martin was township assessor four years. He has stock in the Farmers Elevator Company of Tracy and in the telephone company. He is a member of the Knights of Pythias lodge of Tracy.

Anton S. Larson, brother of the above, was born on the Monroe homestead January 28, 1879, and was brought up and educated in the township. He was married May 29, 1907, in Tracy, to Adelia Mont-

gomery. To this union have been born four children. Mildred and Manly, the eldest, are twins. The other children are Frances and Gertrude Clara. Mrs. Anton Larson was born in Redwood county March 25, 1878, and is a daughter of George and Julia (Steves) Montgomery, natives of Canada who settled at Walnut Grove just after the Indian outbreak. The father is dead and the mother lives with her daughter. Anton Larson is at present on the school board of his district and he has served on the township board.

Martin and Anton Larson have the following brothers and sister living: Louis, of Braham, Minnesota; Hans T., of Crosby, North Dakota; Tien, of Hastings, Minnesota; and Clara M. (Mrs. Ben Cole), of Amiret.

JOSEPH VERHAAKE (1879), a farmer of Island Lake township, was born in Rock Island county, Illinois, December 31, 1863, and is a son of Andrew and Rose (De Buscher) Verhaake, natives of Belgium.

Joseph's parents came to America when young and settled in Illinois, where our subject was born. When he was thirteen years of age, in 1879, the family moved to Lyon county and the father bought the northwest quarter of section 26, Westenheim township. While Joseph was living there with his parents he finished his schooling in the district and attended school one year in Marshall.

Our subject remained on the farm with his parents until 1898, when he entered the employ of the Great Northern Railroad Company, and he was in the service three and one-half years in the yards at Marshall. He then rented land on section 21, Grandview township, and farmed there until 1907. Then he moved to his present farm, the southeast quarter of section 2, Island Lake township, and for several years he rented and farmed 480 acres of land on that section and on sections 1 and 11. He then bought the property and has lately sold at a handsome profit. Mr. Verhaake is a breeder of blooded stock and owns one of the best Belgian stallions in the county. He is also interested in the Farmers Elevator Company of Marshall and in the Lyon County Fair Asso-

ciation. He was clerk of school district No. 12 five years.

The marriage of Joseph Verhaake and Minnie De Belser occurred at Ghent February 18, 1903. She was born in Belgium and is a daughter of Peter De Belser. Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Verhaake have two children: Leona C., born November 7, 1904, and Lizzie V., born August 1, 1906. The Verhaakes are members of the Catholic church.

CHARLES C. RICHARD (1881) is the proprietor of Richard's Department Store of Tracy. Although a young man, he has attained prominence in the commercial circles of Tracy. He is strictly a self-made man, having arisen to his present position through his own resources, without financial assistance.

Mr. Richard has lived in Tracy since he was one year old and secured his education there. When eleven years of age he began working in the store of J. D. Owens as delivery boy and continued to work in stores during the summer months, attending school winters, until sixteen years of age. Thereafter for six years he devoted his entire time to clerking in the store of C. P. Hewitt. At the end of that time, in January, 1902, he purchased his employer's store, conducted it at the old stand until 1911, when he erected his present store building. This structure is the most modern building in Tracy. Its dimensions are 24x130 feet. The business is carried on under the title Richard's Department Store. He deals in dry goods, crockery, shelf hardware and tools, wall paper, paints, toys and five- and ten-cent goods.

During 1909 and 1910 Mr. Richard was mayor of Tracy and he was president of the Commercial Club four years prior to 1911. He is a stockholder and a director of the Tracy Savings and Loan Association. Fraternally he is a Mason, holding membership in the Blue Lodge, Chapter and Eastern Star.

Our subject was married at Tracy on March 27, 1903, to Emogene Rogers, a native of Iowa and a daughter of H. A. Rogers. Two children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Richard: Lester J., who died

March 27, 1911, at the age of six years; and Maurine, who was born in November, 1910.

Charles C. Richard is one of a family of five children, the others being Lillian May, Almeda Belle, Malcomb M., who died in 1909; and Stanley J. The parents of these children are W. J. and Alice Richard. The former was born in Ohio and settled in Tracy in the spring of 1881. He lived in that city until 1902; then he moved to St. Cloud, where he has since been foreman of construction in the employ of the state. During his long residence in Tracy Mr. Richard was a prominent contractor and built many of the best business houses and residences there after the big fire. He erected the First National Bank building, the J. D. Owens store building, the J. W. Beedle store building, several business houses on Front Street, the D. H. Evans residence, and many others. When the Lyon county court house was built Mr. Richard was employed by the county commissioners as building inspector.

OLAI AAMODT (1879) is the owner of the southeast quarter of the northwest quarter and the northeast quarter of the southwest quarter of section 12, Vallery township. He is a Lyon county product, was born May 30, 1879, and is a son of Gulick and Liva Aamodt, who were early settlers of the county.

Our subject received his education in the district schools and grew to manhood on the home farm. He assisted his father with the farm work and remained at home until 1905. That year Olai, in company with his brother Fred, rented 700 acres of land in Vallery township, and the boys started farming for themselves and were in partnership three years. Olai then bought his present place and has since been located on section 12. Since 1900 he has been engaged in the threshing business.

The marriage of Olai Aamodt and Caroline Kolhei occurred in Yellow Medicine county January 2, 1907. She was born in that county June 29, 1879, and is a daughter of Ingebret and Corine Kolhei, natives of Norway. They were early settlers of Yellow Medicine and now live in

Cottonwood. One child, Carla L., was born to Mr. and Mrs. Aamodt, on January 6, 1912. The Aamodts are members of the Norwegian Lutheran church.

CHARLES H. MIDDLETON (1882) is a farmer and land owner of Lake Marshall township who has lived in Lyon county many years. He is a son of John Middleton, an Englishman by birth, who for many years was a boatman on the Erie canal. In 1880 the family moved to Walworth county, Wisconsin, where the father rented land and resided two years. In 1882 a new home was established, in Lyon county, John Middleton buying the north half of section 34, Lake Marshall township. The father died September 30, 1898, at the age of seventy-four years. The mother of our subject, Martha E. (Sheffield) Middleton, was born in New York State, the descendant of an English family. She is now eighty-four years of age and resides with her son. The other members of the family are Fred W., of Canada; Hannah Jeanette (Mrs. H. J. Benson), of Syracuse, New York; and John J., of Marshall.

Charles H. Middleton was born in Oswego county, New York, November 19, 1863. He resided with his parents until 1890, when he was married and engaged in farming on his own account. At that time he bought 200 acres of land on section 3, Lake Marshall township, upon which he has ever since resided. Later he added to his landed possessions by the purchase of 120 acres on section 2 and now has a finely improved half section farm, adorned with substantial buildings. He engages in stock raising and is a feeder and shipper. He raises Shorthorn cattle, Oxford sheep and Poland China hogs. He is a member of the Masonic lodge of Marshall and the family are regular attendants of the First Presbyterian Church of Marshall.

In Oswego county, New York, on February 17, 1890, Mr. Middleton was united in marriage to Martha J. Loser, a native of Missouri and a daughter of Peter and Caroline (Spaulding) Loser, both of whom are deceased. To Mr. and Mrs. Middleton have been born the following named six children: Mae L., born December 11,

1892; Glen C., born February 16, 1894, died April 22, 1908; Elsie M., born December 24, 1895; John L., born April 24, 1899; Frank, born September 7, 1907; and Robert, born February 28, 1909.

CARL O. SKOGEN (1879), who makes his home in Minneota and who farms land close to that village in Westerheim township, is a native of the county and a son of Ole O. and Engeborg (Sheldrew) Skogen. His parents were born in Tellemarken, Norway, came to America in 1867, lived near Neenah, Wisconsin, a few years, in Boone county, Iowa, a short time, and located in Lyon county in the early seventies. They took as a homestead the southeast quarter of section 30, Westerheim township, close to which the village of Minneota was later founded.

On the homestead Carl Skogen was born August 21, 1879, and there he grew to manhood, working for his father. He spent one and one-half years in the Dakotas, and in 1905 he rented from his father the northwest quarter of section 31, Westerheim, and engaged in farming. Three years later he moved to section 4, of the same township, farmed there one year, and then moved to Minneota, where he purchased a residence and where he has since lived. He now rents from his father the northwest quarter of section 31.

Mr. Skogen was married at Porter November 7, 1904, to Eliza Crogness. She was born in the village in which she was married September 1, 1886. Her parents, Bersven and Engebor (Nelson) Crogness, were born in Sonmor, Norway, came to America in the seventies, and bought a homestead right to land in Yellow Medicine county, near Porter. The parents both died on the homestead in 1908. Mr. and Mrs. Skogen have two children: Leola C. and Olinda B. Our subject and his wife are members of the Norwegian Lutheran church.

CHARLES C. BREENING (1880) is one of the big farmers of Rock Lake township and has lived in Lyon county thirty-two years. He owns the southeast quarter of section 9 and rents other land, farming

840 acres. He engages extensively in stock raising and feeding for market, making a specialty of Shorthorn cattle and Poland China hogs.

The subject of this review is one of a family of six living children, the others being Mary (Mrs. William Darger), of Tracy; William, of St. Paul; Fred, of Balaton; John H., of Marshall; and Henry C., of Balaton. The parents of these children, John and Elizabeth (Schenck) Breening, came from Germany in 1869, lived in Du Page county, Illinois, until 1880, and then came to Lyon county. The head of the family had charge of the section at Balaton for the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad Company five years and then purchased land in Rock Lake and engaged in farming until his death.

Charles C. Breening was born in Verben, Germany, November 20, 1862, came to America with the family in 1869, and spent his boyhood days in Illinois, attending school and working for the Northwestern Railroad Company. He came to Lyon county in 1880 and for the next fifteen years worked for the railroad company, with headquarters at Tracy and Brookings, South Dakota. Since severing his connection with the railroad company Mr. Breening has been engaged in farming in Rock Lake township and has been very successful.

Mr. Breening served several years as a member of the Township Board of Supervisors, for eight years was assessor of his township, and during the last three years he has been clerk of school district No. 60. He holds membership in the Masonic lodge of Russell and the Workmen lodge of Balaton.

Anna M. Olson, a native of Norway, became the wife of Mr. Breening April 12, 1888, the ceremony being performed at Balaton. His wife was born April 12, 1871, a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Martin Olson, pioneer settlers of Murray county. Mr. and Mrs. Breening have thirteen children, all of whom reside at home. Their names are Arthur J., Edna E., Richard O., George W., Carl, Alice, Ora, Bessie, Maude, Eva, Dorothy, Luella and Irene.

EARLE S. MILLER (1869), of Tracy,

was one of the very first of the present residents to visit Lyon county. He first came in 1869, but his permanent residence did not begin until some years later.

Mr. Miller was born in Cook county, Illinois, May 25, 1847. His parents, Charles D. and Mary M. (White) Miller, were born in New York and Vermont, respectively, and both are deceased. Earle attended the schools of Illinois until 1866 and then accompanied his parents to Winona county, Minnesota, and resided with them until 1869. That year he came with the Mitchell and Scriven families to Lyon county, remained a short time, and then located in Jackson county, Minnesota.

In that county, a few miles east of the present city of Worthington, Mr. Miller took a homestead claim, on which he resided two years. He then returned to Winona county, bought land, and engaged in farming there until 1876. He again came to Lyon county at that time and the same year took a pre-emption claim in Pipestone county, which he held three years and then sold. He was one of the crew that surveyed the line of railroad from Tracy to Pierre, being thus engaged one year. Mr. Miller bought grain in Tracy two years and has since been engaged in the real estate business there.

Mr. Miller was married in Wabasha county, Minnesota, November 24, 1887, to Jennie Paine. She was born in England October 11, 1857. Mr. Miller is a member of the Masonic lodge of Tracy.

JOSEPH M. MITCHELL (1880) is the owner of a fine eighty-acre farm and comfortable home in Amiret township, and he is today a prosperous farmer after more than thirty years' residence in the county. Mr. Mitchell's introduction to Lyon county was perhaps not one to lend enthusiasm to the mind of a new settler, inasmuch as his first winter in the county was the one of deep snows, blizzards and blockades. Our subject, however, is one of many who regrets not that he has made his home in Lyon county.

Mr. Mitchell took an active part in the Civil War. He enlisted January 5, 1864, as a private in Company A, Thirty-fifth New Jersey Infantry, and was mustered out

July 20, 1865. During that time he took part in General Sherman's campaign in Georgia and in the famous "March to the Sea." Mr. Mitchell is a member of D. F. Markham Post No. 7, G. A. R., of Marshall, and has held at different times the office of post commander, senior vice and junior vice.

Joseph Mitchell was born in Glen Gardner, New Jersey, December 13, 1847, and is a son of George and Lydia (Narcross) Mitchell, both deceased. His parents located in Illinois in 1871 and resided there until their deaths. Joseph received a common school education in New Jersey and during the later years of his residence in that state worked out at farm labor. He came to Illinois with his parents and worked out in Ogle county two years. He then married and rented land in Winnebago county, where he farmed eight years.

In March, 1880, our subject came to Lyon county and purchased the land he now owns on section 23 from the Winona & St. Peter Railroad Company. It is one of the nicest farms in the township, and thirty-two years ago Mr. Mitchell paid for it the small sum of \$6 per acre.

In various capacities Mr. Mitchell has been called upon to serve in an official capacity. He was a member of the Township Board two years ago and served one year as chairman. For three years he was clerk of the township, and for the past ten terms he has been the assessor. He was road overseer several years and was for eighteen years the clerk of school district No. 23. In 1895 and 1905 he was census enumerator.

Our subject's marriage to Sarah Seal occurred at Elida, Illinois, August 12, 1871. She was born August 18, 1847, in New Jersey, and is a daughter of John and Jane (Bellis) Seal, now deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Mitchell are the parents of the following children: Elizabeth (Mrs. George Purves), of Tracy; Eleanor (Mrs. Eleanor Gary), of Marshall; Lydia (Mrs. M. D. Bair), of Amiret township; Agnes (Mrs. C. J. Armstrong), of St. Paul; and Belle, who lives at home. The Mitchells are members of the Presbyterian church, of which Mr. Mitchell was for a number of years a trustee.

KNUTE O. BAKKEN (1876) is a homesteader of Eidsvold township and has lived in that precinct thirty-six years. He has lived in a sod shanty, fought grasshoppers, burned hay, and performed other feats that were required of the pioneers of Lyon county. He owns a quarter section of land. His homestead is the north half of the southeast quarter of section 10, and the east half of the northwest quarter of section 15 was purchased from the railroad company.

His parents, Ole and Annie (Knutson) Garlibakken, died in Norway. He has a brother and sister: Knute O. Garlibakken, who still lives in Norway; and Carrie K. T. Monum, of Pope county, Minnesota.

In Norway, on the seventeenth of August, 1851, Knute O. Bakken was born. He came to the United States in 1868 and settled in Manitowoc county, Wisconsin. There he resided until coming to Lyon county in 1876, working on farms and in the pineries. Mr. Bakken came to Lyon county in the spring of 1876 and filed upon his homestead. He erected a board and sod house, in which he resided several years, and he has lived on the homestead ever since. The grasshoppers took the best part of his first crop and he met other discouragements, but he persevered and in time came upon more prosperous times.

Mr. Bakken served as director and treasurer of school district No. 79 many years. He and his family are members of the Norwegian Lutheran church of Minneota.

The marriage of Mr. Bakken to Caroline Olson occurred in Manitowoc county, Wisconsin, in April, 1876. His wife is a native of the county in which she was married. Mr. and Mrs. Bakken are the parents of seven children, as follows: Ole, of North Dakota; Julia (Mrs. Helge Helgeson), of Eidsvold township; Gusta (Mrs. Herman Esping), of Burton township, Yellow Medicine county; Annie (Mrs. Charles Peterson), of Minneota; Hattie (Mrs. Selma Quickstad), of Deuel county, South Dakota; Christina (Mrs. Martin Erickson), of Yellow Medicine county; and Emma, a school teacher.

G. A. DALMANN (1879), a prominent and influential business man of Minneota, has resided in that village thirty-three years and has been identified with the growth and development of the town as have few others.

Mr. Dalmann was born in Iceland September 19, 1856, the son of Grimur and Rose (Davidson) Dalmann. He was the youngest member of a family of five children, all of whom except himself are deceased. His parents died when he was a child and he grew to manhood without school privileges and without aid from relatives. He is a self-made man in every respect and has reached his present standing by unaided effort.

Our subject was brought up on a farm in his native land. He came to the United States in 1879 and direct to Minneota, where he has since had his home. One year he worked on the railroad and then clerked in the store of T. D. Seals and later in that of Coats & Davidson. In 1886 he engaged in business for himself, conducting a fruit and confectionery store and restaurant for about two years. Then he added a line of groceries and has since been engaged in that line of business. He now handles groceries and crockery exclusively and has a model store. His motto is: "The Best of Everything." He located in his present commodious quarters in 1909. In 1894, 1895 and 1896 Mr. Dalmann was on the road buying produce for a Winona company.

On many occasions Mr. Dalmann has been called upon to serve his village in an official capacity. He has held the office of president of the Village Council, member of the Council, assessor and street commissioner. He has been active in school matters and has taken a leading part in all movements for the betterment of the public schools. He was president of the Board of Education when the schools were moved to the present location and he was one of the organizers of the independent district. In fraternal circles Mr. Dalmann is also prominent. He holds membership in the Masonic, Odd Fellows and Woodmen lodges. He was the first master of Equity Lodge No. 258 of Minneota and has the distinction of being the first Iclander to hold the office of worshipful master of the

Masonic lodge in this country, so far as is known.

In Minneota, on April 1, 1883, Mr. Dalmann was united in marriage to Sarah Peterson. She is also a native of Iceland and came to the United States in 1877. Four children have blessed this union, as follows: Rose, of Aberdeen, South Dakota, the wife of R. C. Domehower, who is the assistant superintendent of the Milwaukee railroad at that point; Baldur J., a traveling salesman for Scott & Dillon, tobacco manufacturers, married October 4, 1911, to Zelpha Hall, of Smith Mill, Minnesota; Christine, who clerks for her father; and Walter, who clerks in the transfer office at Aberdeen, South Dakota.

CHARLES J. SPONG (1883) located in Clifton township immediately upon coming to Lyon county in 1883. He purchased the southeast quarter of section 2 in partnership with his brother August and soon after bought the brother's interest. Later Mr. Spong bought the southwest quarter of section 1, eighty acres on section 11, and sixty-four acres on section 13, and he is now the owner of 464 acres of Clifton township's choicest farming land. Stock raising is also claiming much of Mr. Spong's attention. He is partial to Shorthorn cattle and Poland China hogs and he has a splendid flock of Shropshire sheep.

Mr. Spong came to the county from Illinois. He was born in Sweden August 5, 1855, and was brought up in the old country. In his young manhood he learned the carpenter's and cabinet maker's trades and worked at them some time in Sweden. It was in 1879 that he came to America and located in De Kalb county, Illinois, where he worked at farm labor three and one-half years. In 1883 he came with his brother to Lyon county and bought land, and he has since then been a resident of Clifton township. He is a director and shareholder in the Farmers Elevator Company of Milroy. For ten years he served as a member of the school board of district No. 42, and his church affiliations are with the Evangelical Association church. He has been a class leader since the Clifton church was organized and Sunday School superintendent for the past fifteen years.

Charles Spong's marriage to Gustava C. Grip took place in De Kalb county, Illinois, March 3, 1883. She was born in Sweden February 13, 1853, and died May 3, 1889. By her marriage to Mr. Spong she became the mother of two children, John W., born February 21, 1884, died January 14, 1911, and Oscar M., born July 29, 1886.

On December 24, 1889, our subject was married at Marshall to Augusta M. C. Dahl. She is a native of Sweden and her parents, Peter and Caroline (Johnson) Dahl, still live in the old country. She and Mr. Spong are the parents of the following children: Harry B., born October 25, 1890; Paul H., born May 13, 1892; Frank A., born January 4, 1894; and Ruth E. A., born August 19, 1898.

The parents of our subject are Christopher and Johanna (Swenson) Spong, and they are still living in the Fatherland. Besides his fine farm land Mr. Charles Spong owns a house and seven lots in Marshall.

WILLARD J. VAN DUSEN (1879) farms the south half of the southwest quarter of section 4, Monroe township. He has lived on the place ever since his father took it as a homestead thirty-three years ago, and since the father's death in February, 1907, Willard has had charge of the place.

Willard's father and mother were Charles E. Van Dusen and Fannie E. (Staley) Van Dusen. The father was born at Canton, Ohio, January 17, 1843, and was brought up on a farm. At the age of sixteen years he moved to Kalamazoo, Michigan, where he made his home several years and where he married in the fall of 1865. In 1866 the young couple located in Medford, Minnesota, where they lived several years, then moving to Lyon county and taking as a homestead the farm where our subject now resides. Mrs. Charles Van Dusen was born in Kalamazoo May 24, 1845, and is living on the old homestead in Monroe with her son Willard. The Van Dusens and the Staleys are both descendants of old colonial families, and the family histories date back to the earliest settlement of the colonies.

Willard Van Dusen was born in Medford, Minnesota, August 24, 1867, and lived on the farm near that town until 1879,

when he came with his parents to Lyon county. He has lived on the Monroe township homestead practically ever since. Willard had some interesting experiences during his early days in the county. During the blizzardy winter of 1880-81 he teamed between Tracy and Sleepy Eye for Tracy merchants and carried passengers. He made five trips that winter, one trip taking him fourteen days.

June 8, 1893, Willard Van Dusen was married to Annie Lee, who was born in Norway, March, 1876, and came to this country at the age of ten years. She died February 6, 1904. To Willard Van Dusen and his wife three children were born, Albert E., Clarice E. and Frank E.

SPURGEON ODELL (1889), president of the Marshall State Bank and a former clerk of the district court of Lyon county, is one of the substantial citizens of the county seat—a man who has taken an active part in the business and political life of his community.

Mr. Odell is a native Minnesotan, having been born at Oronoco, Olmsted county, July 6, 1860. At the age of twelve years he moved to Faribault county, and there he grew to manhood. He was one of the first graduates of the Wells High School and he completed his education with a two years' course in a college at Battle Creek, Michigan. In 1884 Mr. Odell moved to Granite Falls, where he taught school and worked at the painter's trade until 1889.

In the month of August, 1889, Mr. Odell became a resident of Lyon county. For five years he was associated with the Northwestern Elevator Company at Green Valley station. He was elected clerk of the district court in November, 1894, moved to Marshall, and during the next eight years held the county office, having been re-elected in 1898. From the first of 1902 until November 1, 1905, Mr. Odell was traveling agent for the Burchard Hulburt Investment Company, of St. Paul. On the date last mentioned he purchased a half interest in the firm of D. D. Forbes & Company, real estate, loans, collections and insurance, and for several years he engaged in that business with James A. McNiven, the firm being styled Odell & McNiven. On

June 15, 1909, Messrs. Odell and McNiven and S. J. Forbes organized the Marshall State Bank and have since been associated in its management. Mr. Odell is president; Mr. McNiven, vice president; and Mr. Forbes, cashier.

For three years, 1907-09, Mr. Odell was mayor of Marshall. In 1902 he was the Democratic nominee for secretary of state, on the ticket headed by the late Leonard A. Rosing, but was defeated with the rest of the state ticket. Mr. Odell holds membership in the Chapter, Blue Lodge and Commandery of Marshall, in Osmun Shrine of St. Paul, and in the Knights of Pythias and Elks lodges.

Mr. Odell was married June 27, 1894, to Effie M. Bomerooy, of Sparta, Wisconsin. They have three children, Lottie M., Althea B. and Spurgeon E.

HERMAN P. MEYER (1881) is the owner of a fine quarter section, the northwest quarter of section 1, Rock Lake township, and 120 acres on sections 35 and 36, Lyons, and he farms both places. Mr. Meyer makes his home on the Rock Lake quarter.

Michael and Julia (Peters) Meyers, parents of our subject, were natives of Germany. Herman was born in the Fatherland August 10, 1879, and the family moved to America when Herman was a baby two years old, settling in Rock Lake township in the spring of 1881. The father died in 1885; the mother is a resident of Balaton. Herman grew up on the Rock Lake farm and attended country school in the district until twenty years of age. He then worked out at farm labor in the county until the fall of 1902, in which year he rented the Julius Meyers farm in Rock Lake and farmed it five years, in addition to farming his own quarter on section 1.

In the spring of 1907 Mr. Meyer greatly improved the buildings on his farm. In the summer of 1910 he purchased the 120 acres in Lyons and now has 280 acres of fine land to look after.

The wedding of Herman Meyer and Anna Stankey occurred January 9, 1903, at Balaton. Mrs. Meyer is a native of Wisconsin and was born October 18, 1886. She is

a daughter of Charles and Albertina (Lellman) Stankey, pioneer settlers near Ripon, Wisconsin, and now residing in Lyons township, Lyon county. Mr. and Mrs. Herman Meyer are the parents of five children, Elsie, Alma (deceased), Myra, Esther and Viola. The Meyers are members of the German Lutheran church of Balaton.

DR. EDWARD T. SANDERSON (1881) is a physician of Minnesota and has resided in Lyon county for the past thirty-one years. He is a native of Iowa and was born at Xenia on April 20, 1875. When a young boy he moved to Nebraska and in 1881 to Lyon county. He received his early education in the schools of Lyon county and St. Olaf's College.

When thirteen years of age young Sanderson started out in life for himself. Ten years were spent in the lumber business, working at various places in South Dakota for the Laird-Norton Lumber Company, in North Dakota, Nebraska and Iowa for the Smith & Rogers Company, and in Wisconsin for the Ellefson Lumber Company. He also spent three years as assistant cashier in a bank at Lake Preston, South Dakota. In 1901 he went to Chicago and took up the study of medicine at the Bennett Medical College, from which he was graduated in 1905. Dr. Sanderson was secretary of and professor of anatomy during 1906 and 1907. He then returned to Minnesota and has since been engaged in practice.

The subject of this review is a son of the late Dr. Samuel E. Sanderson, of Minnesota, one of the pioneer physicians of Lyon county and one of the best known practitioners in this section of the state. He was married to Eliza Ellefson. Both were natives of Dane county, Wisconsin, where their parents settled in an early day, having emigrated there from Norway. They made settlement in SpkaskKonong township, which was the original settlement place of the Norwegian colony in that state. The mother of our subject died in 1902 and the father in 1910. They were the parents of the following children: Edward T., of this sketch; Frederick W., a lumber dealer of Madison, Wisconsin; Theresa, a trained nurse of Madison; Docto-

Anton Sanderson, who is practising at Minneota; Melville, a student.

Our subject is a member of Masonic, Elks and Modern Woodmen lodges and the Tau Alpha Ipsalon fraternity. He is a member of the American Medical Association, the Minnesota State Society and the Lyon-Lincoln Medical Society, of which he is censor and a delegate to the State Society. He is county physician.

Dr. Edward Sanderson was married at Eastman, Wisconsin, on December 31, 1906, to Miss Harriett Wallin, a native of that state. They have one child, Elsie Theresa.

REV. WILLIAM JOSEPH STEWART (1905), pastor of St. Edward's Catholic Church of Minneota since September 10, 1905, is a native of Ireland. He was born in Cashel, county of Tipperary, July 14, 1875, and is the eldest son of Jamieson and Mary (Moloughney) Stewart, the former of whom is deceased, and the latter still residing at the old home in Ireland.

Until fifteen years of age the boy William attended the Convent and Christian Brothers' Schools in his home town. In 1890 he entered Rockwell College, Cashel, where he began his classical studies. After three years at that college he continued his preparatory course for the seminary under the private tutorship of the Very Rev. Daniel Canon Ryan, P. P., Clonoulty, county Tipperary. Our subject entered St. Patrick's College, Thurles, Ireland, as a student in 1896, and having completed his two years' course of philosophy and four years' course of theology, was ordained priest for the Archdioceses of Cashel and Emly by His Grace the Most Reverend Thomas Fennelly, D. D., on June 21, 1903.

After his ordination Rev. Father Stewart came on the mission to America and received appointment from Archbishop Ireland as assistant pastor to St. Joseph's Church, St. Paul. There he labored until he was sent as pastor to St. Edward's Parish, Minneota, in 1905.

FRANK W. WEBB (1886), deceased, was among the first business men in Amiret and was a resident of the village twenty-six years. He was, perhaps, the town's most

prominent and best known business man. Mr. Webb was a stockholder and the vice president of the Amiret State Bank, and for many years he directed the management of his 480 acre farm in Amiret township.

William W. and Mary Ann Webb, parents of Frank Webb, were natives of England, and after coming to America both located in Buffalo, where they were married. They then moved to Jackson county, Wisconsin, where they made their home until their deaths. They left three children, Thomas H. Webb, of Tracy, A. J. Webb, of Melrose, Wisconsin, and Frank Webb, of this sketch.

Frank Webb was born in Jackson county, Wisconsin, January 5, 1859, and he grew to manhood in that state. After the death of the parents Frank and Thomas Webb came to Minnesota and found work on farms in the southern part of the state. In 1886 they began their business career in Amiret. The brothers established a small store and were identified with the town's development in no small degree. In addition to his mercantile business Frank conducted the Van Dusen elevator, the first in the town, thirteen years, and held the office of postmaster fifteen years. In the late eighties the brothers divided their interests, and Frank remained in control of the store at Amiret.

In 1908 our subject suffered a severe loss in the burning of his store and much of its contents. The business had grown and Mr. Webb had erected a large building, and at the time of the fire he was carrying a \$10,000 stock of general merchandise, dry goods, groceries, shoes, hardware, etc. The owner was fairly well insured and immediately began the construction of a fine new brick building and soon had replaced his stock and was actively continuing business. There is no doubt, however, that the loss of his building and stock by fire was a serious blow to Mr. Webb, and while he was able to rise to the situation financially his health refused to stand the strain, and his physical breakdown dated from that time. He sought medical aid at St. Paul and Rochester but his case seemed to be not within the range of medical help. Mr. Webb's death, from anemia, occurred at Amiret August 13, 1911. Until about three weeks before he died he was able to be around and in a measure to attend to his duties in the store.

In 1889 Frank W. Webb was married to



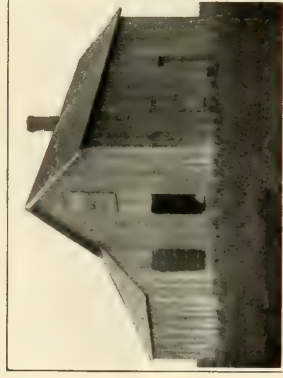
John O'Connor



F. P. Ahern



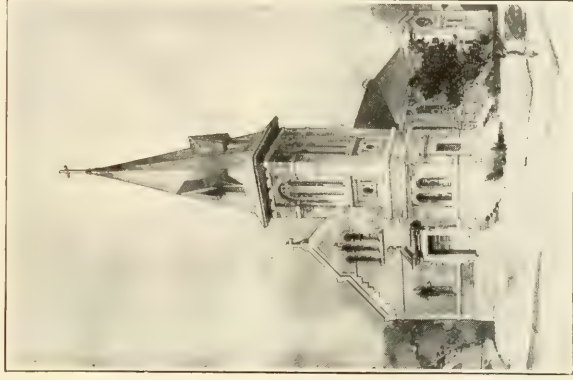
St. Edward's Church



Where Mass Was First Said



Robert Culshaw



Proposed New Church



Rev. W. J. Stewart



H. J. Tillemans



Inez Marshall, a native of Jackson county, Wisconsin, and a daughter of William H. Marshall. To this union were born four children, Lester, Hobart, Marshall and Howard, all of whom are living.

**KNUTE SWENNES (1875).** A pioneer settler and one of the prominent citizens of Eidsvold township is Knute Swennes, who owns and farms the northeast quarter of section 2. He has lived on the farm he now owns since he was eleven years of age and he has seen northwestern Lyon county develop from a trackless prairie to one of the best farming communities of the state.

Knute Swennes was born at Valdres, Norway, January 2, 1863. He came to the United States with his parents in 1870, and after living in Walworth county, Wisconsin, five years came with the family to Lyon county in 1875. The trip was made in wagons and the father selected as his homestead claim the land now owned by the son. At that time there was not a house within sight of the claim, and the nearest neighbor was E. K. Kjørness, three miles southeast. Ten miles to the east lived Ole Brusven, there were a few settlers ten miles to the west, and there was practically nothing nearer than thirty miles to the north.

The Swennes family erected on their claim one of the best homestead cabins of the county. The lower story was built in a side hill and sheeted with lumber; the second story was built of lumber; and it was quite a comfortable home at that time. Five years later the pioneer home was replaced by a more pretentious building, and later still the present two-story, ten-room house was erected. The grasshoppers brought destruction to several crops, but the family succeeded each year in harvesting enough wheat to carry them through the succeeding winter. They were obliged to burn hay during the memorable winter of 1880-81.

Ever since coming to the county as a boy thirty-eight years ago Knute Swennes has lived on the old homestead. During boyhood days he attended the district school and helped with the work on the farm; later he remained to manage the

farm for his father. He came into possession of the farm in 1900 and has since operated it to his own account. Mr. Swennes was assessor of Eidsvold township a number of years. He is a member of the Modern Woodmen lodge.

Knute Swennes is a son of the late Ole A. and Ingrid (Ulvestad) Swennes, who lived on the Eidsvold farm many years. The father died in 1906, the mother two years later. Ole A. Swennes took an active part in the business and political life of his township and was an influential citizen. He was one of the organizers of school district No. 39 and held school office many years. With O. L. Orsen and E. K. Kjørness he organized the Norwegian Mutual Fire Insurance Company, and he wrote the by-laws of the original company.

Three sons and two daughters comprise the Swennes family. They are Arne, who resides on the southeast quarter of section 2, Eidsvold; Knute, of this biography; Inger (Mrs. Ole E. Rye), of Eidsvold township; Ola, Jr., a hardware merchant of Flaxton, North Dakota; and Anna, the wife of J. O. Hovland, a retired merchant of Flaxton.

The subject of this review is a man of family, having been married to Marie Johnson December 16, 1903. She is a native of Eidsvold township and was born February 25, 1881. Her father, L. P. Johnson, was born in Sweden, and her mother, Marit (Nyhagen) Johnson, was born in Norway. They settled in Eidsvold township in 1877. Two sons have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Swennes: Knute B., on December 5, 1904, and Ola Odin, on February 28, 1907.

**ED. GITS (1883),** dealer in general merchandise at Ghent, first came to that village when a child six years of age, when the town was not much larger than he was. Although a young man, he has built up a prosperous business and is meeting with deserved success.

Ed. Gits was born in Belgium January 19, 1876. When six years old, in 1883, he came with his parents to America and his first home in the New World was Ghent. He lived with his parents until sixteen years of age and then went to Faribault, Minnesota, and clerked in a store for sev-

eral years. In 1898 he enlisted in Company B, Twelfth Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, for service during the war with Spain. He was stationed with his regiment at Chickamauga and Lexington and was mustered out of the service in 1899. Then he became a member of the Home Guards of Duluth and went to Kootchichink and assisted in suppressing an Indian outbreak on the international boundary line.

After that service Mr. Gits returned to Ghent and for five years he was manager of the C. M. Youmans lumber yard. In 1907 he bought a store building of Joseph Pierard and stock of general merchandise of Aime Vanhee and has since been engaged in that business. He handles dry goods, groceries, shoes, furnishing goods, notions, crockery, etc.

Mr. Gits was married in Ghent on November 8, 1904, to Louise Schreiber, they being the first couple married in the new Catholic church. Mrs. Gits was born on her father's homestead in Westerheim township. She is the daughter of Mathews J. and Johanna (Brewers) Schreiber, who settled in the county in 1883. Mr. and Mrs. Gits have two daughters, Juliet and Prudence, and a son, Wilfred Edward, born November 14, 1911.

For several years Mr. Gits served as recorder and treasurer of Ghent. He is a member of the Catholic church and of the Catholic Order of Foresters lodge, of which he has been chief ranger since its organization.

Francis and Louise Gits, the parents of Ed. Gits, also reside in Ghent and have done so since they came from Belgium in 1883. Francis Gits was one of the early business men of Ghent and one who has done much to bring it to its present standing. At one time and another he conducted a blacksmith shop, general store, hardware store, hotel and livery barn and erected six or seven of the buildings in the village. He has also engaged quite extensively in farming and burned the first and only brick ever manufactured in the town.

In the Gits family are seven children, as follows: Paul, Julius, Joe, Victor, Clemence (Mrs. Charles Foulon), Edmund and Arthur. Prudence, who became the wife of Gustave Vergote, is deceased.

SNORRI HOGNASON (1877), of Minneota, was born in Iceland May 13, 1846, a son of Hogni Gunlaugson and Kristin Snorradottir, both now deceased. Snorri received in his youth such education as was common in Iceland at that time. He was brought up and worked on a farm until 1873, when he came to America and worked on farms in Iowa and Green counties, Wisconsin, three years. In 1876 he located in Goodhue county, Minnesota, and a year later took a homestead on the northwest quarter of section 4, Westerheim township, Lyon county, where he farmed until 1885.

That year Mr. Hognason located in Clarkfield, Minnesota, where he built the first hotel and conducted it until 1890. He sold out and returned to Lyon county, locating in Minneota, where he has since been engaged in the real estate, loan and insurance business. He has a nice residence property in the town, is one of the progressive citizens, and is an active member of the Icelandic Lutheran church. Mr. Hognason has been justice of the peace in Minneota and Westerheim and was one of the organizers of, and for three years a trustee of, the school district in which he resided in Westerheim township, also serving on the Board of Supervisors. While a resident of Clarkfield he was a member of the Board of Education three years and justice of the peace.

Mr. Hognason was married May 18, 1879, to Wilborg Peterson, a native of Iceland, born January 26, 1846. They are the parents of the following children: William (deceased), Johanna, teacher in the Minneota High School; Kristine Lillie (Mrs. Steven Peterson), of Yellow Medicine county; Martha (Mrs. H. G. Johnson), of Minneota; and Guy Byron, a graduate of the Mining Engineering Department of the State University. The children have all been excellent students in school, the three girls having taken first or second honors in their graduating classes at high school and college.

LAURITZ E. BLEGEN (1879), farmer of Shelburne township, has lived in Lyon county all except the first two years of his life and is a native Minnesotan. He

owns and farms the southwest quarter of section 21, known as the Calumet Farm.

Mr. Blegen was born in Olmsted county, Minnesota, July 9, 1877, the son of Iver and Christina (Haugen) Blegen. The parents came from Norway in the early seventies, lived in Olmsted county a number of years, and since 1879 have lived in Shelburne township. They have only one child, the subject of this biography.

When Lauritz was two years old the family came to Lyon county. The father took as a homestead claim the southeast quarter of section 32, Shelburne, lived on the place until after proving up, and then purchased land on section 8, where he has since lived. Lauritz grew to manhood on that farm and secured his education in the nearby district school. After growing up he took the management of the home farm, and in 1909 he bought his present property and moved thereon.

Mr. Blegen was chairman of the Board of Supervisors of Shelburne township one year and is the present township assessor. He is a member of the Modern Woodmen lodge and is clerk of Camp No. 3871, Florence. He is a member of and one of the trustees of the Norwegian Lutheran church of Florence.

The marriage of our subject to Lizzie Alsaker occurred at Benson, Minnesota, on the last day of the year 1903. She is a native of Swift county. Three sons have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Blegen, named Nestor, Lloyd and Howard.

MRS. JAMES A. HARRIS (1880) is the widow of James A. Harris, who was one of the most highly respected citizens of Lyon county. Mrs. Harris' maiden name was Mary A. Foster. She is a daughter of the late Charles S. and Sarah J. (Roberts) Foster, natives of Pennsylvania. In 1854 her parents moved from their native state to DeKalb county, Illinois, where they resided until 1865. At that early date they moved to Minnesota and settled in Wabasha county. The family became residents of Lyon county in 1879, residing in Lynd township until 1896, when they took up their residence in Marshall. Mrs. Foster died October 3, 1900, and Mr. Foster on May 7, 1909.

To these parents Mary A. Foster was born in DeKalb county, Illinois, May 25, 1857. When eight years of age, in 1865, she accompanied her parents to Minnesota and attended the public schools of Elgin, Wabasha county, until fifteen years of age. Miss Foster continued to reside with her parents in Wabasha county until her marriage to Mr. Harris on June 4, 1875.

James A. Harris was of Pennsylvania stock, the son of John and Cynthia Harris. He was born in Tuscarawas county, Ohio, January 15, 1849. In 1873 he, too, became a resident of Wabasha county, Minnesota, where he resided until March, 1880. At that time he and his family moved to Lyon county, in which he spent the rest of his life. He took a homestead in Island Lake township, which he sold two years later. He resided one year in Lynd township and seven years near the little village of Ghent. Then he bought a farm on section 8, Lynd township, later added to his real estate holdings, and resided on that farm until his death on June 28, 1911, after an illness of eight years.

Six children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Harris, named as follows: William, born September 26, 1876, died April 4, 1880; Frances V., born August 23, 1878; Albert Lee, born September 30, 1880; Charles E., born March 12, 1883; Harry R., born September 6, 1885; George E., born December 12, 1887.

All the children except Frank and Lee reside at home and assist their mother with the management of the home farm. The Harris family are large holders of Lyon county real estate. Mrs. Harris owns 400 acres of land on section 8, Lynd township. Frank and Lee, who are independent farmers, own 520 acres in Island Lake township. Charles, Harry and George are the possessors of 480 acres on section 5, Lynd township. In addition to grain farming, the Harris family engage extensively in stock raising. Charles Harris is a director of school district No. 17, an office which his father held continuously from 1891 until his death. James Harris also served as chairman of the Lynd Township Board of Supervisors for ten years.

Mrs. Harris has four brothers and one sister, as follows: Elmer Foster, of Marshall; L. F. and Ulysses Foster, of Lynd township;

James Foster, of Raymond, South Dakota; Oceana (Mrs. Henry Wilson), of Cottonwood.

RICHARD R. BUMFORD (1878), who conducts a loan and real estate office in the city of Marshall, has been a resident of Lyon county thirty-four years. He is a native of Racine county, Wisconsin, and was born October 26, 1856. He was educated in the district school and in the grammar school at Racine.

In 1876 Mr. Bumford moved to Blue Earth county, Minnesota, where he engaged in teaching district schools two years. He came to Lyon county in the spring of 1878, took a homestead claim in Monroe township, and for a few years was engaged in teaching school. He was elected register of deeds in 1882 and held the office three terms, until the first of the year 1889. That year he engaged in his present business. Mr. Bumford makes a specialty of real estate loans and has built up a very large business along that line.

The subject of this review was married at Marshall in June, 1886, to Lucy Lewis, a native of New York State. Mr. and Mrs. Bumford have two children: Gladys E., a graduate of the Marshall High School and who for two years attended the Conservatory of Music of Oberlin, Ohio, and Truman Lewis, who was graduated from the Marshall High School in 1911 and who is now attending Carleton College. The family are members of the Congregational church of Marshall, Mr. Bumford being one of the trustees of the church.

Richard R. Bumford is a son of the late David and Ellen (Roberts) Bumford. The parents were born in Wales, came to America when young, and were married in Racine, Wisconsin. David Bumford was a veteran of the Civil War, having served as a member of Company F, of the Twenty-second Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry. He died at the home of his son, Abner G. Bumford, in Custer township in December, 1889. The mother of our subject died in Wisconsin a number of years ago. There were only two children in the family—Abner G. and Richard R. Bumford.

JOHN B. CULSHAW (1880), farmer and land owner of Nordland township, has lived in that precinct since he was eight years of age. He was born in England August 20, 1872, a son of Robert and Helen (Parker) Culshaw, also residents of Nordland.

It was in 1880 that the Culshaw family came from England and made settlement in Nordland township, the father having purchased a quarter section of land on section 3 through Father Hanly the year before their arrival. John received his schooling and grew to manhood on the farm. After growing up he assisted his father in the management of the home farm and was so engaged until 1909. Then, having purchased the southwest quarter of section 2 from his father, he engaged in farming for himself.

Mr. Culshaw raises Guernsey cattle and Poland China hogs. He has served as treasurer of Nordland township and as clerk of school district No. 77. He is a member of the Catholic church and of the M. W. A. and K. C. lodges.

The marriage of Mr. Culshaw to Ann O'Brien occurred in Minneota November 8, 1905. She was born in Illinois December 6, 1879, a daughter of John and Margaret O'Brien. Her father was born in Ireland and died in Nordland township in 1896; her mother was born in Scotland and died in Nordland township in 1901. Mr. and Mrs. Culshaw have five children: Helen B., Margaret, Agnes, Mary J. and Ann T.

FRANK E. STARR (1873), of Tracy, is the son of one of the first settlers of southeastern Lyon county and has lived in the county all except the first four years of his life. He engages extensively in the stock business with his brother, Charles Starr, the firm being Starr Brothers.

The brothers are sons of the late E. L. Starr, one of the pioneers of Tracy and a man who took a prominent part in the affairs of his community. The family came to the county in 1873 and took as a homestead claim land adjoining the future city of Tracy on the east. There a small frame house was erected and a sod barn was put up to shelter the oxen. On the claim the Northwestern Railroad Company established the first station in the vicinity, the predecessor of that of Tracy.

E. L. Starr engaged in farming and stock buying and conducted a butcher shop in Tracy when the town was started. Before that time the household supplies were hauled from Currie. The elder Mr. Starr served as county commissioner in the early days. He died in 1908. The following named seven children are members of the family: Mary A., Frank E., Charles E., Lillian, Lucy, Eva and Mabel.

Frank E. Starr was born near Winona, Minnesota, March 19, 1869, and when four years old came with the family to Lyon county. Prior to his father's death he and his brother were associated in business with their parent. Frank bought his present place on the outskirts of Tracy about ten years ago. Besides his other business interests he engages in farming. He also owns an 110-acre farm near town. Our subject is a member of the A. O. U. W. lodge.

Mr. Starr was married in Tracy to Cynthia Beeman, a native of Wisconsin. They have three children, Leroy L., Warner and Alice.

MARTINUS ANDERSON (1880) farms 280 acres of land in Lucas township, a short distance west of Cottonwood. The farm is the southeast quarter of section 6. He was born on the adjoining farm, the homestead of his father, October 14, 1880. With the exception of a few months spent in Colorado and Canada, Martinus has always lived in this vicinity. The farm on which he now resides he has farmed since 1905 and he has since made many improvements on it, including a large barn built in 1912.

Gabriel Anderson, the father of our subject, superintends the farming of the home place, although he resides in Cottonwood. He is one of the largest land owners of Lyon county, having purchased about 1600 acres since taking up his residence here. He was born in Norway and came to America when one year old. He came to Lyon county in the early seventies and was one of the first settlers of Lucas township. The mother of our subject is Margaret (Olson) Anderson, a native of Fillmore county, Minnesota.

The oldest child of the Anderson family, Edward, was drowned when five years old. The other children are Martinus, Mrs. Bernard Dahl, Mrs. J. Von Williams, Mabel, Joseph, Henrietta and Hartford.

Martinus Anderson was married at Granite Falls, Minnesota, October 18, 1905, to Annie Wangsness, a native of Fillmore county. Their only child, Gifford J., died at the age of five months.

JAY P. PETERSON (1886) is a member of the Home Land Company of Russell and is interested in other business enterprises in that village. He is an early settler of southwestern Lyon county and was the first station agent at Russell.

Mr. Peterson was born in Denmark May 4, 1874, the eldest of four children born to Hans and Ellen Peterson, who now reside in Russell. The other children of the family are Hans C., William C. and Carrie K., the wife of Peter Hanson, of Russell.

When Jay was nine years old the family came to America and made settlement at Maquoketa, Jackson county, Iowa. In 1886 they moved to Lyon county, bought the northeast quarter of section 36, Coon Creek township, and on that farm Jay lived with his parents a little over a year. While living there, during the memorable blizzard of January 12, 1888, Hans Peterson and our subject had an experience that will never be effaced from their memory. An account of their experience in the storm can be found in the historical part of this volume.

At the age of fourteen years Jay Peterson left the parental roof and set out in life for himself. His first work was on the grade of the Willmar & Sioux Falls road, which was then building through the county. In 1891 he went to Tyler and in the railroad station at that place learned the telegrapher's trade. On September 12, 1892, he located at the new station of Russell, opened the station, and had charge of the company's interests there until 1900.

During the next three years Mr. Peterson was agent, respectively, at Lester and Doon, Iowa; Yankton, South Dakota; and Pipestone, Minnesota. He was then promoted to traveling freight agent for the Great Northern, with headquarters at Sioux City, and held the position until 1909. That year he gave up railroading, returned to Russell, and opened a general store. He conducted that one year and has since been engaged in the real estate business. In 1910 he organized the Home Land Company in company with

B. Leknes, cashier of the First State Bank. He is also engaged in the jewelry business and is a stockholder in the Russell Tile and Cement Manufacturing Company.

Upon the incorporation of Russell Mr. Peterson was chosen the first village recorder, and he was one of the first trustees of the Presbyterian church of Russell. He is a Blue Lodge and Chapter Mason and a member of the Woodmen and Workmen lodges. His wife is a member of the Eastern Star, Royal Neighbors and Degree of Honor orders.

The marriage of our subject occurred in Russell November 27, 1899, when he wedded May E. Patton, a native of Lodi, Wisconsin, and a former resident of Esmond, Kingsbury county, South Dakota. Her parents, James and Jane Patton, were born in Scotland and in the early seventies located in Kingsbury county.

JOHN H. HUGHES (1876), one of the early settlers of Custer township and a farmer who has prospered on his eighty-acre farm and been active in the affairs of the community, was born in New York State March 22, 1852. When a small child he accompanied his parents, Hugh R. and Ann (Pew) Hughes, to Wisconsin, where the family resided until John was ten years old; then the family moved to Blue Earth county, Minnesota.

Blue Earth county continued to be the home of the Hughes family until John was twenty-four years of age. He was brought up on a farm and attended school in the home district. He had been helping his father on the farm several years when, in 1876, the family came to Lyon county, the father and John each taking homesteads in Custer township. The parents made their homestead their home until their deaths, and John has been a continuous resident on the west half of the northwest quarter of section 14 ever since taking it as a homestead in 1876. He is a stockholder of the Garvin Creamery Company.

John Hughes and Margaret J. Owens were united in marriage January 1, 1877. Mrs. Hughes was born in Waukesha, Wisconsin, March 25, 1856. To them have been born six children, named as follows: Hugh, Philip, Hannah, Mary, Margaret and

Elizabeth. Mr. and Mrs. Hughes are members of the Congregational church of Custer township.

THEODORE JANSEN (1885). One of the most prosperous farmers and stock raisers of Lyon county is Theodore Jansen, of Lake Marshall township. He was born in Beubwe, Holland, August 31, 1865, and resided there until twenty years of age. Theodore is a son of Albert and Annie (Boerboom) Jansen, both deceased, the former having died in 1891 and the latter in 1895.

In 1885 our subject accompanied his parents to Lyon county and the father bought land near Ghent. Albert Jansen died there in 1891 and Theodore then assumed charge of his father's farm in company with his brother Jacob. They farmed together until 1901, when they sold out and moved to Oklahoma. Not finding the latter country to their liking, they returned to Lyon county and purchased 560 acres of land in Lake Marshall township. They farmed together until 1905, when they divided, and our subject became the owner of 400 acres of improved land. He raises a great deal of stock, including Shorthorn and Durham cattle and Poland China hogs. Our subject is a member of the Catholic church.

The subject of this review was married in Ghent June 30, 1891, to Caroline Hennen, a native of Lemberg, Holland. Mrs. Jansen was born October 19, 1872, and is a daughter of Arnold and Helena (Becker) Hennen, who came to America in 1884 and located at Ghent, later moving to Green Bay, Wisconsin. The mother died in 1905; the father is living at the age of seventy-three years. Mrs. Jansen died March 9, 1907.

Mr. and Mrs. Jansen were the parents of the following children: Mary H., born July 20, 1892; Albert A., born August 1, 1893; William O., born November 11, 1894; Agnes W. J., born October 12, 1896; Leo T., born April 24, 1898; Annie H., born May 4, 1899; Helena C., born February 15, 1903; Carolina M., born March 7, 1905.

Mr. Jansen was married a second time to Maria Vergot on February 28, 1911. She was born in Belgium September 4.

1878, and is a daughter of Julius and Louisa (Nayeart) Vergot.

JAMES GRIEVE (1889), senior member of the firm of Grieve & Laingen, is a prosperous merchant of Cottonwood. The proprietors built the large and commodious two-story brick building which they occupy and the firm handles a large line of general merchandise and is one of the most popular business institutions in the county. Grieve & Laingen also own a well improved quarter section of land in Lucas township, to which they give their personal supervision.

Mr. Grieve is a native of Ontario, Canada. He was born October 24, 1872, and when a child the family moved to Saginaw, Michigan, where James resided until 1889, when he was seventeen years of age. At that time he came to Lyon county and worked out as a farm laborer about two years, finally seeking employment in Cottonwood and securing a position as clerk in the store of Arneson & Olson, which he held four years. The ambition to get into business for himself led Mr. Grieve to form a partnership with John Michie, and the two young men bought Dahl Brothers' general merchandise stock and ran the store under the firm name of Michie & Grieve six years. In 1902 C. R. Laingen bought out Mr. Michie, and the firm name has since been Grieve & Laingen. In 1904 the partners built the present modern building.

Our subject was married in Lucas township August 5, 1896, to Ellen Garry, a native of Canada and a daughter of John Garry, an early settler of Lucas township. In the summer of 1911 Mr. Grieve built a fine residence of the bungalow type, and he and his wife are now comfortably installed in the new home. Mr. Grieve's mother is still living and makes her home in Cottonwood. The father, Joseph Grieve, died in the early seventies.

James Grieve was a member of the Village Council two terms. Fraternally he is associated with the Masonic lodge.

PEDER GILBERT RONNING (1879) has spent his entire life as a resident of Shelburne township. He is the son of Thomas and Maret (Otton) Ronning, who came to

Lyon county in March, 1879, and have ever since resided in Shelburne.

Peder was born on section 18, May 18, 1879. He was educated in the schools of Florence and the vicinity and was a student until eighteen years of age. Thereafter until he reached his majority he worked on his father's farm. Since becoming of age he has farmed for himself. During the past four years he has farmed the east half of the southeast quarter of section 28. Besides general farming, Mr. Ronning raises considerable stock, including Shorthorn cattle, Poland China hogs and Percheron horses.

Randy Christensen became the wife of Peder Ronning on May 18, 1902. She was born in Norway June 8, 1876, and is the daughter of Rasmus and Andrena Christensen, pioneer settlers of and still residents of Coon Creek township. To Mr. and Mrs. Ronning have been born the following named children: Alma Matilda, born November 5, 1903; Torvel Roy, born May 12, 1906; Pleda Ruth (deceased), born January 13, 1909; Almer Olea, born January 16, 1911.

The family are members of the Norwegian Lutheran church of Florence. Mr. Ronning is a member of the Modern Woodmen order and was formerly one of the officers of the local lodge.

LORENTS KLAITH (1875) is a general merchant of Minneota and a man who has resided in Lyon and Lincoln counties for thirty-seven years. He is a native of Norway and was born October 18, 1856, one of a family of seven children. The other living members of the family are Mrs. Anna Spillum, of Racine county, Wisconsin, and Mrs. Oleni Feste, of Williams county, North Dakota. The father of this family died in Norway when Lorents was a child; the mother, Marie Klaith, died in Lincoln county about 1899, aged seventy-four years.

In the spring of 1873 Lorents came to the United States with his mother, brothers and sisters and located in Racine county, Wisconsin, where he remained until the summer of 1875. Then he came to Lyon county and worked on farms near Minneota until 1879. That year he homesteaded land in Lime-stone township, Lincoln county, where he lived until the fall of 1901. On that farm he "batched" for two years in a dug-out and

then built a log house, which still stands on the farm. He went through all the hardships of early days, but when times bettered he became a prosperous farmer. Mr. Klaith still owns the old farm besides another quarter section adjoining it.

In 1901 Mr. Klaith moved to Minneota, where he bought livestock for a year and then purchased an interest in the general store of Christ Urdahl. Later he bought Mr. Urdahl's interest and has continued the business. Mr. Klaith is a member of the Norwegian Lutheran church. While on the farm he was assessor eight consecutive years, chairman of the township board four years, one of the first constables in the township, and was clerk of the school district from its organization until he left the farm.

Mr. Klaith was married in August, 1886, to Gorgine Feste, a native of Norway who was then a resident of Nordland township. They have five children living, Martin, Josephina, Annie, Amanda and Laura. Those deceased were Martin, Annie, Lewis.

KASPER FISCHER (1888), of Lynd township, is a farmer and land owner of Lyon county who has resided here many years. He is a native of Germany and was born at Bavaria August 1, 1847, the son of John and Marguerite Fischer. Both parents are deceased.

Kasper Fischer received his early education in Germany, where he attended school until eighteen years of age. He then worked for his father on the farm until twenty-two years of age, when he enlisted in the German army and fought in the Franco-German war, spending about four years in the service. He then returned home and worked for his father until 1875.

Mr. Fischer came to Lyon county in 1888 and has been a very successful farmer and stock raiser. Previous to coming to Lyon county he worked in Chicago for six years.

Our subject is a member of the Catholic church. He has stock in the farmers' elevator companies of Marshall, Ghent and Lynd. He is also a stockholder in the Independent Harvester Company of Plano, Illinois. Mr. Fischer engages extensively in stock raising, breeding Hereford cattle, Red Jersey hogs, White Plymouth Rock chickens and Bel-

gian horses. He was road overseer in Lynd township for three years. He owns four hundred eighty acres of land in Lynd township and four hundred acres in Island Lake township and has one of the best improved farms in Lyon county. He drives an International automobile.

On February 1, 1875, Mr. Fischer was united in marriage to Babata Stachar, a native of Germany. To this union were born the following children: Katherine, Anna, Elizabeth (deceased), Joseph, William and Harry. All reside at home. Mrs. Fischer died in 1905. Joseph is a member of the M. W. A. lodge and a graduate of the Minnesota State Agricultural College. Katherine is a member of the Catholic Order of Foresters.

FREMONT SHARPE BROWN (1880) has practised law in the city of Tracy for the past thirty-two years and has been prominently identified with the affairs of Lyon county during all that time. He has served as judge of probate and county attorney and held many minor offices. His part in the political and business affairs of the county richly entitles him to a place in this History of Lyon County.

Judge Brown was born in the city of Indianapolis, Indiana, June 15, 1856. His ancestry can be traced back to colonial days in New England; his parents, Myron Holly Brown and Sarah M. (Sharpe) Brown, were both born in New York State. In May, 1865, the family became residents of Minnesota, locating in Wabasha. There young Brown read law and in 1879 he was admitted to the bar. He practised in his home city a few months and then located in the young but growing town of Tracy, which has ever since been his home.

Many times has Judge Brown been called upon to serve in an official capacity. Before the incorporation of Tracy he served as clerk of Monroe township, and after the incorporation he was the first village recorder. He was elected county judge of probate in 1882 and was re-elected four consecutive times, serving until January, 1893. He was chosen county attorney in 1896, was re-elected in 1898, and held the office until the beginning of the year 1901. In 1887 the Minnesota Legislature provided that the governor ap-

point a commission of three members to codify and revise the probate laws of the state. Judge Brown, who was then serving as probate judge, was named as one of that commission and assisted in the work. In 1889 the Legislature adopted and enacted into law the probate laws as revised and codified by the commission.

In business affairs Judge Brown has also had considerable to do, having perfected the organization of several incorporated companies for investment in lands. In Masonic circles Judge Brown has taken advanced degrees. He holds membership in the Minnesota Consistory, Paladin Commandery No. 21, Osman Temple, St. Paul Council, R. S. M., Bower Chapter No. 44, R. A. M., Tracy Lodge No. 155, A. F. & A. M., and Virginia Chapter No. 14, O. E. S.

Judge Brown was married in Mankato to Sue B. Gleason. She died in September, 1896. To them were born two children. Mary Kathrine and Hoit Sharpe. The second marriage of Judge Brown occurred in February, 1907, to Flora A. Hartigan, a native of Plainview, Minnesota.

WILLIAM J. BRULL (1884), the subject of this sketch, was born in Bocholtz, Holland, July 17, 1860, was educated in the public schools of Holland, and learned the blacksmith's trade, after which he was employed by the government as mail carrier, and during that time, on the first day of May, 1882, he was united in marriage to Mary E. Rycken, to which union Mary Lizzie was born February 8, 1883.

On the eleventh day of April, 1884, Mr. Brull and his family, accompanied by his father and mother, immigrated to America, and they arrived in the village of Ghent, Lyon county, Minnesota, on April 28 of the same year. Soon thereafter he rented a farm and settled on the southwest quarter of section 24 in the township of Lake Marshall, at which place and on the nineteenth day of April, 1885, his only son, William J. Brull, Jr., was born. In 1887 he purchased the south half of section 34 in the township of Grandview and moved thereon in the spring of 1888. He continued to operate the farm in Grandview until 1899, at which time he purchased the south half of section 36 of the same township and moved thereon

and on that place he has resided ever since. Mr. Brull has since purchased several other farms, making his land holdings at the present time 680 acres, and he has improved the same by erecting thereon a set of farm buildings equal, if not superior, to any in the county, including a residence with all of the modern conveniences at a cost of over \$6000, which farm and home are within two miles of the city of Marshall, the county seat.

Mr. Brull has prospered in all of his undertakings and investments and is today enjoying the results of an active and well-spent career. He has been active in all the affairs of his township and in addition thereto has been traveling salesman for the Page Woven Wire Fence Company of Adrian, Michigan, and is a director of the Western Mutual Fire Insurance Company of Balaton.

Mrs. Brull was born at Broeksittard, Holland, on January 13, 1861, and is a daughter of Henry Rycken and Mary Elizabeth (Panhansen) Rycken, both of whom are now deceased.

His only daughter, Mary Lizzie, became the wife of Constant Senden on September 25, 1907, who died on the sixth of June, 1908, at which time she returned to and has since made her home with her father and mother. His son William J. Brull, Jr., is unmarried and makes his home with his parents.

Mr. Brull is an active member of the Catholic church and in politics is what is known at the present time as a Progressive Republican.

JAMES CHRISTENSON (1886), Stanley township farmer, is a native of Denmark and was born January 6, 1862, a son of Christ and Amelia (Peterson) Jensen.

In his native land James Christenson was reared and educated. In 1886, when twenty-four years of age, he came to America and direct to Lyon county. For a few years he worked out as a farm hand and in 1889 he rented land in Stanley township and started in business for himself. He located on the present place in 1909. He farms 320 acres on section 6, Stanley, and 30, Lucas. He raises Poland China hogs and other stock. For seven years Mr. Christenson served as a director of school district No. 15. He is a member of the Norwegian Lutheran church.

The marriage of James Christenson to

Maria Sorenson occurred in Marshall August 28, 1888. She was born in Denmark March 13, 1865, and died March 4, 1912. Her parents were Paul and Bodel (Peterson) Sorenson, both of whom are buried in the old country. Eight children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Christenson, as follows: Paul, born June 13, 1889; Chris, born October 23, 1890; Fred, born October 19, 1892; Henry, born February 23, 1895; Emma, born January 28, 1898; Jacob, born March 30, 1900; James, born April 7, 1903; and Mary, born June 27, 1905.

A. R. CHACE (1878). is a dealer in implements, stock and grain in the city of Marshall and an old-time resident of Lyon county. For the last thirty-four years he has lived in the county and most of that time has been spent in the city in which he now has his home. During these years he has been active in the affairs of the city and he is rated among the men of integrity of the community.

Mr. Chace was born in Danby township, Rutland county, Vermont, on May 1, 1838. The first twelve years of his life were spent in his native state and then he moved to Erie county, New York, where he resided until the outbreak of the Civil War.

For three years and one month Mr. Chace served in the Union Army, having enlisted as orderly sergeant in Company A, Sixty-fourth New York Infantry. He participated in every battle in which the Army of the Potomac took part, including Gettysburg, the second battle of Bull Run, Fredericksburg, Culpepper Court House, Cold Harbor, the Wilderness, Fair Oaks, Antietam and Yorktown. He was in the Fourth Brigade (General John R. Brooks) of the Second Army Corps (General Hancock) and in the battle of Antietam was under General Nelson A. Miles. After the battle of Gettysburg Mr. Chace was promoted to second lieutenant, was made first lieutenant a few weeks later, and later still was made captain. During the last year of his service he was brigade inspector on the staff of General John R. Brooks.

After the war Captain Chace located in the oil regions of Pennsylvania. For several years he was engaged in the oil industry, putting down wells and promoting enter-

prises. After leaving Pennsylvania he spent six months in the same business at South Norwich, Canada. The Fenian raids were taking place in that part of Canada at the time and Mr. Chace had exciting experiences in them. For the next ten years Mr. Chace was a resident of Chicago, one year in the merchandising brokerage business, and the rest of the time in the foreign and domestic fruit trade. In the great fire of 1871 he lost everything he possessed, but later recouped his fortunes.

It was in 1878 that A. R. Chace became a resident of Lyon county. He bought a pre-emption claim to the northwest quarter of section 14, Sodus township, and later bought 120 acres of railroad land adjoining. He lived on the farm one year and then moved to Marshall, where he has ever since resided. At the time of locating in the county seat Mr. Chace formed a partnership with J. P. Watson and engaged in the implement and stock business. For twenty-five years the firm of Watson & Chace had an existence. Then William Neill bought the Watson interests, and the business has since been conducted under the firm name of Chace & Neill. Besides his other duties our subject devotes his time to the management of his farms. He owns 240 acres of land in Lake Marshall township, and he and Mr. Neill own the same amount in Island Lake township.

Watson & Chace's first store was at the corner of Main and Fourth Streets, on the site of the building recently vacated by the ten-cent store. Later they bought the yards of the Empire Lumber Company and those of the Hall & Ducey Lumber Company and were engaged in that business two years, selling to the Ross Lumber Company. Upon purchasing the business of the Empire Lumber Company they moved into that company's building, where Chace & Neill now have their office. That building was one of the earliest erected in Marshall, having been put up by the Empire Company when W. M. Todd was their agent.

Mr. Chace is a member of the Masonic lodge. He is a prominent member of the Marshall Presbyterian Church and is a ruling elder.

The parents of our subject were Ephraim and Emily (Rhodes) Chace, natives, respectively, of Massachusetts and Rhode Island. There were nine children in the family, as

follows: Mary (Mrs. Ira Vail), deceased, of Vermont; Susan (Mrs. Pliney Bartlett), deceased, of Collins, Erie county, New York; Amelia Vail, of Erie county, New York; Eliza Jacobs, deceased; Frances, Clara Willett, of Erie county; Lydia Wilbur, deceased; and A. R. Chace.

The marriage of A. R. Chace to Alice G. Perry occurred in Erie county, New York. She is a native of that county and a daughter of Esquire P. H. Perry. Mr. and Mrs. Chace have one child, Naomi, now Mrs. Edward G. Campbell, of Owatonna, Minnesota.

ANDREW HENRY HATTLESTAD (1878), one of Lucas township's farmers, was born at Marshall June 19, 1878, and is a son of Ole H. and Carrie (Anderson) Hattlestad. The family were early settlers of the county, and Ole Hattlestad is still a prominent figure in county affairs and resides at Cottonwood. His wife died some years ago.

Andrew when two years of age accompanied his parents when they moved to a farm in Lucas township. He grew up on the farm and attended district school until sixteen years of age, after which he was a student in the Norwegian Lutheran College at Madison, Minnesota, for three years. After quitting that school, Andrew engaged in carpenter work and followed that calling two years at Toronto, South Dakota. Returning to Lyon county, the young man worked three years for his father on the home farm, then married, and again took up his trade for a short time in Cottonwood.

Shortly after our subject's marriage he moved to a farm in Vallery and commenced farming for himself, in which occupation he has since been engaged. Some years ago he moved to Lucas township and is now the proprietor of 216 acres. He raises considerable stock.

The subject of this sketch was married November 28, 1900, to Emma J. Ludwig. She was born near the town of Parker, South Dakota, June 1, 1883, and died August 1, 1910. By her marriage to Mr. Hattlestad she became the mother of the following children: Carol Sidney, born April 28, 1902; Kenneth Olai, born June 10, 1903, died June 20, 1903; Basil Jerome, born December 15, 1904; Clifford Orran, born June 15, 1907; and Erma Alsine, born June 20, 1909. Mr. Hattlestad

is a member of the Norwegian Lutheran church of Cottonwood.

WILLIAM C. HENRICHS (1887), deceased, was a citizen of Russell and Shelburne township for many years. He was born in Bremer county, Iowa, December 6, 1876, and spent the first eleven years of his life in that state. His parents, Fred and Rachael (Troosh) Henrichs, were natives of Germany and Ilion, Illinois, respectively, and are now living in Todd county, Minnesota.

The Henrichs family moved from Iowa to Lyon county, Minnesota, in 1887 and located in Shelburne township. That was William Henrich's home for many years, and he conducted a farm of his own eleven years before moving to Russell to take the management of the tile plant.

The Russell Cement Tile Manufacturing Company was started by John Bengtson in April, 1910, and in August the plant was bought by stockholders and incorporated for \$30,000, for the purpose of manufacturing cement building blocks, drain tile and other cement work. The capacity of the works was increased to 4000 tile per day and the plant was equipped with the latest machinery and became one of Russell's best enterprises. The officers of the new company were William C. Henrichs, president and general manager; John Bengtson, vice president; J. P. Peterson, secretary; and B. Leknes, treasurer.

Mr. Henrichs was married in Coon Creek township October 14, 1899, to Eva S. Burckhardt. Two children were born to this union, Rudolph and Ida. Mrs. Henrichs was a native of Freeport, Illinois, and died May 28, 1909. The subject of this sketch was the victim of an automobile accident and came to his death in the summer of 1911. Besides his two children he left nine brothers and three sisters, as follows: Fred, William C., Mary Hamm, Emma Burckhardt, Herman, Byron, Albert, Frank, Henry, Etta and Ida. Mr. Henrichs was a well known and well liked citizen and one of the active and reliable business men of Russell. His death was a universal loss. He was very prominent in lodge circles and held membership in the A. F. & A. M., Modern Woodmen, A. O. U. W. and Royal Neighbors lodges.

JOHN O'CONNOR (1880) is the proprietor of Elder Grove Farm, comprising 240 acres on sections 11 and 13, Eidsvold township. When he came to Lyon county thirty-two years ago his worldly possessions consisted of \$3.15. He worked hard and economized to pay for his farm and improvements and is deserving of the greatest credit for what he has accomplished, for he is now in prosperous circumstances and has one of the fine farm homes of Eidsvold township.

Mr. O'Connor was born in the county of Cork, Ireland, September 19, 1841. His parents, Edmund and Margaret (Mullane) O'Connor, died in the old country, and there are three living children of a family of six. The children are Helen, who still lives in Ireland; Margaret, of Washington, District of Columbia; and John.

In 1868 Mr. O'Connor decided to seek his fortune in the New World and he landed in Castle Garden on April 23 of that year. In the metropolis of the country he was married and resided there ten years. The next two years were spent working on a railroad in Wabasha county, Minnesota, and then he came to Lyon county.

The trip to Lyon county in 1880 was made by train to Granite Falls and thence to Minneota by "Shank's horses." No houses were in sight for many miles of the foot journey and the first night he slept on the prairie. Upon his arrival he contracted for the purchase of his present farm from the railroad company, agreeing to pay \$6.00 per acre for the same. He had no funds and the land was without improvements. He rented a little shack a mile south of his place, in which he lived and to which he brought his family two years later, and went to work on the section to earn money to meet the payments on his land and to support his family.

For twenty years Mr. O'Connor worked on the section, for the last twelve years of the period being foreman of a crew. Thus he struggled to gain a competence, and he finally won the fight. Three years after his arrival he built a little shack on the land and moved his family there. In 1898 he erected an eight-room, 32x36 feet, well appointed house and other buildings. After quitting the railroad he began farming and has since been so engaged. The grove of elder trees planted in the early days sug-

gested the name for the farm, which is now recognized as one of the fine ones of the precinct. Among the improvements made in 1912 was the erection of a 100-ton silo, thirty-six feet high, and the expenditure of \$1000 in tiling. It is Mr. O'Connor's intention to feed cattle for the market.

In the city of New York, on January 8, 1871, Mr. O'Connor was united in marriage to Julia O'Connor. She was also a native of County Cork and arrived in America February 15, 1868. To Mr. and Mrs. O'Connor were born nine children, of whom the following named five are living: Edmund, who now conducts the home farm; John, of Duluth; Mary, of Minneapolis; Julia, of New York City; and Veronica, a school teacher. The family are members of the Catholic church of Minneota.

For his success in life and the making of his home he desires much credit given to his faithful wife, who departed this life on April 25, 1903.

JOHN W. WILSON (1881) is the proprietor of 360 acres of well-improved farm land in Island Lake township and is a prosperous farmer and stock raiser. He was born in Grant county, Wisconsin, September 5, 1853, and is a son of John and Lucinda (Rister) Wilson, natives of Indiana and Illinois, respectively. They came to Wisconsin in an early day and pursued the occupation of farmers.

John was brought up in Wisconsin and spent the first twenty-eight years of his life in that state. He obtained a common school education and afterward remained on the farm with his father, helping with the work. In 1881 the family moved to Minnesota and the elder Wilson bought 160 acres on section 3, Island Lake township. The property was at that time raw prairie land and the efforts of its owners have brought the farm to its present state of improvement. Mr. Wilson every year makes a shipment of Durham cattle and Duroc-Jersey hogs to market, and is conducting his farm with profit.

He was married in the township to Mary Helvig. She is a daughter of Joseph and Catherine Helvig, natives of Germany, who now reside at Ivanhoe, Minnesota. Seven children have been born to Mr. and Mrs.

John W. Wilson. They are as follows: Cora, Martha, George, Arthur, Roy, Frank and Joseph. The Wilsons are members of the Catholic church.

CAMIEL F. DE SUTTER (1882), of Grandview township, was born in Belgium December 3, 1863, and was brought up and educated in his native land. At the age of nineteen years he came with his parents, Charles F. and Mary (De Pauw) De Sutter, to the United States and located in Westerheim township, Lyon county, Minnesota, the father buying land on section 29. Charles F. De Sutter made that his home until 1903, when he moved to Ghent, and there he died in 1906, aged seventy-eight years; Mrs. De Sutter died on the farm in 1897.

Camiel De Sutter remained on his father's place ten years after the family located in Lyon county. Then he married and bought the southwest quarter of section 34 and the northeast quarter of the southwest quarter of section 33, Westerheim township, and made his home there ten years. He then moved to the north half of section 10, Grandview township, and farmed the whole section, later buying the south half. There were no buildings on that half, and Mr. De Sutter has since improved the farm. He conducts practically all the 520 acres in the two townships. He donated three acres of his land to the Catholics and they built their church there.

Camiel De Sutter married Mary E. Van Hee in Ghent, the wedding taking place July 6, 1892. She is a native of Belgium and was born October 19, 1865, a daughter of Angelus Van Hee, who located in Grandview township in 1881 and who died about eighteen years ago. To Mr. and Mrs. De Sutter have been born nine children, as follows: Aime, a student at Sacred Heart College, Prairie du Chien, Wisconsin; and Charles, Andrew, Mary, Joseph, Rachael, Lucy, Alice and Emil, who reside at home. Mr. De Sutter has seven brothers and sisters living: Andrew, Nathalie, August, Peter, Louis, Archer and Emil.

The subject of this sketch is a member of the Catholic church and holds membership in the Catholic Order of Foresters lodge.

F. W. SICKLER (1878), cashier of the Lyon County National Bank, has been a resident of Marshall since 1878. He is one of the influential citizens of the city and enjoys the confidence and esteem of the people of the entire county.

Mr. Sickler was born in Rockford, Illinois, October 21, 1856. When he was one year of age he accompanied his parents to Rome, Bradford county, Pennsylvania, where he grew to manhood and where he received an academic education. Later he moved to Athens, Pennsylvania, where he resided until 1878. That year he located in Marshall and has ever since been identified with the town's prosperity.

For a few years Mr. Sickler served as deputy register of deeds of Lyon county and as deputy county treasurer, doing practically the entire work of both offices. In 1881 he was made assistant cashier of the Lyon County National Bank and has since been connected with that financial institution, of late years as its cashier. He received the appointment of postmaster of Marshall in 1898 and served a four-year term. He is a Mason.

At Marshall, on July 25, 1895, Mr. Sickler was married to Lillian S. Porter, a daughter of Charles Porter, of Lamberton, Minnesota. Mr. and Mrs. Sickler are the parents of the following named children: Vivian G., Florence B., Frances Porter, Wallace W., George Howard and Robert.

ANDREW OFSTAD (1881), who owns the northwest quarter and south half of the southeast quarter of section 19, Shelburne township, adjoining the village of Florence, is a well-to-do farmer and stockraiser of the vicinity.

Our subject was born in Trondhjem, Norway, March 21, 1851, his parents being Gunder S. and Mary Ofstad, both now deceased. Andrew was reared in the land of his nativity and received a common school education, attending until fifteen years old, after which he worked with his father on the farm until he was twenty years of age. In 1871 the boy immigrated to America, locating near Ishpeming, Michigan, and obtaining employment in the iron mines, where he worked for the next four years. Thence

he went to Houghton, Michigan, and worked four years in the copper mines.

In the spring of 1881 Andrew, then a man of thirty, determined to seek a less confining occupation, and he has never regretted coming to Minnesota and taking up farming in Lyon county. He bought 120 acres of his present farm at that time; in later years he has purchased additional land and now owns 240 acres.

Mr. Ofstad has been quite active in affairs of the township, having been a member of the Township Board of Supervisors three or four years and a director of school district No. 78 two terms. He was also road overseer in Shelburne two terms. He has been interested in the Florence Creamery Company and was president of the company two years. Mr. Ofstad is a member of the A. O. U. W. lodge of Tyler and he affiliates with the Norwegian Lutheran church.

Andrew Ofstad was married August 14, 1875, at Ishpeming, Michigan, to Gurn Ronning, a native of Norway and a daughter of Knute and Mary (Gorseth) Ronning, both now dead. Gurn Ronning was born August 7, 1852. Andrew and Gurn (Ronning) Ofstad are the parents of the following children: Gustad A., Mary (deceased), Oluf (deceased), Mary (deceased), Oliver, Clara, Martin, Albert, Guy and Pauline. Gustad A., the oldest son, is the Great Northern Railway station agent at Florence.

STEVE BLANCHETTE (1884) is a real estate dealer of Marshall, doing business under the title Marshall Land Company. He handles Southern and Central Minnesota lands exclusively and has built up an extensive business. He first came to Lyon county at the age of fifteen years and his home has been here the greater part of the time since.

In Kankakee county, Illinois, on August 24, 1869, Mr. Blanchette was born. He attended the district school and completed his education with a course in Vieters College at Bourbonnais Grove, Illinois. He came to Lyon county with the family in 1884 and during the next ten years worked for his father on the farm on section 31, Vallers township. That place was bought two years before the family came to the county and all

the improvements on the farm were made by the Blanchette family.

After leaving the farm Steve spent a number of years railroading for the Northwestern Company on the line between Winona and Tracy. He then moved to Napoleon, North Dakota, and during the next seven years operated a cattle ranch. In 1909 Mr. Blanchette returned to Lyon county and entered the Marshall State Bank and he has been with that institution practically all the time since. In the spring of 1911 he engaged in the real estate business. He holds membership in the M. W. A. and K. C. lodges.

The parents of our subject were Eli and Desanges (Boule) Blanchette, natives of Canada. The father located in Chicago when that place was a village and later located in Kankakee county, Illinois, making the fifty-mile trip from Chicago on foot. He was one of the first settlers of that now populous county and land there sold for \$1.25 per acre when he arrived. Eli Blanchette lived in Kankakee county until 1884 and then became a resident of Vallers township, Lyon county. He died October 18, 1911, at the age of seventy-one years. Mrs. Blanchette died in 1905. There are eight children in the family, as follows: Albert, Steve, Mitchel and Jerry, all of Lyon county; Mrs. J. J. Caron, of Detroit, Minnesota; Dr. V. J., of Walkerville, Michigan; Ivan and Homer, both of Marshall.

Steve Blanchette was married at Waseca, Minnesota, September 13, 1892, to Catherine Shortell, a native of Mantorville, Minnesota. They have four sons and one daughter, Harold, Armend, Genevieve, Donald and Raymond.

JAMES HALL, SR. (1897) is president of the First National Bank of Balaton and a retired farmer residing in that village. He is a native of Ireland and was born near Belfast, coming to the United States during the Civil War. He located near Kankakee, Illinois, where he engaged in farming with his parents for some time, after which he took up agricultural pursuits for himself. He farmed in Illinois until 1883, when he moved to Hand county, South Dakota, where he took a homestead and also purchased 160

acres of land. He resided in South Dakota until 1897.

That year Mr. Hall came to Lyon county and purchased land in Rock Lake township, the southeast quarter of section 28, which he farmed until the fall of 1911, when he moved to Balaton, where he has since resided. In January, 1912, he was made president of the First National Bank. In addition to looking after that office, he engages quite extensively in stock buying. Our subject is a member of the Methodist church of Balaton and is superintendent of the Methodist Sunday School.

Mr. Hall was married December 25, 1874, at Chicago to Margaret A. Meglade, a native of Illinois. She was born and brought up near Chicago. Mr. and Mrs. Hall are the parents of the following children: James and Walter, of Marshall; Robert, of Rock Lake township; Eliza (Mrs. N. H. Olson), of St. Peter; Anna (Mrs. F. Bartlett), of Balaton; Iva (Mrs. Harry Tate), of Balaton; Eva and Margaret, of Balaton. One child, William, is deceased.

JOHN HOLLO (1881), of Marshall, is one of the largest land owners of Lyon county. He is a native of Norway and was born June 13, 1864, a son of Matthias and Ella Hollo. The parents died in Yellow Medicine county, the father in 1909 and the mother in 1881. They settled in that county in 1869, being among the pioneers and being the first to homestead land outside of the river districts.

The father and our subject helped in the construction work of building the Northwestern railroad through Yellow Medicine county, using eight head of oxen to scrapers. They did their first trading at Granite Falls, which was then a trading post with no railroads, and had to go to New London for flour, a distance of eighty miles, by ox team. They lived the first ten years in a dug-out. The other children of the Hollo family are Johanna (Mrs. M. Martinson), of Yellow Medicine county; Annie (Mrs. Andrew Volstan), of Harlan, Montana; Gunda, of Cottonwood; and Ella (Mrs. Hans Larson). The two last named are deceased.

When three years of age our subject accompanied his parents to the United States and made settlement at Le Sueur, Minnesota, in 1867. In 1869 the family moved to

Yellow Medicine county and made settlement on a homestead. Our subject resided on the place with his parents until 1881. In the latter year he moved to Marshall and has made his home there since. The following spring he began clerking for John G. Schutz in a general store and was with him eight or nine years. He then went to Cottonwood and had charge of a branch store for Mr. Schutz there until 1890, when he returned to Marshall.

On his return to the county seat, Mr. Hollo formed a partnership with John H. Schneider and engaged in business under the firm name of Schneider & Hollo; five years later they took in Mr. Schutz as a partner. The latter continued a member of the firm three years and then sold. In 1905 Mr. Hollo purchased the interest of Mr. Schneider and conducted the business under the name of John M. Hollo until the fall of 1910, when he sold to F. M. Birkemyer & Company. Since that time Mr. Hollo has devoted his time to farming his land, including 2000 acres in Lyon and Yellow Medicine counties. In 1911 he put in 650 acres of flax, the largest tract ever sowed to that crop in the county by one individual.

During the gold excitement in the Klondike in 1898 our subject made a trip to the Coffey river country, Alaska, near Cook's inlet, and remained there that summer. Mr. Hollo began business without capital, and by hard work and trading he has become one of the county's largest land owners. His first work was for Mr. Schutz at four dollars per month.

Mr. Hollo was married at Minneota, Minnesota, August 28, 1886, to Lizzie Prairie, a native of Kankakee county, Illinois. They are the parents of four children: Louise, Myrtle, Raymond and Donald.

JOHN ANDERSON (1877), Coon Creek township farmer, is a native of Winona county, Minnesota, where he was born November 19, 1874. His parents are Nels and Magdalena (Erickson) Anderson, with whom he makes his home. When three years of age he accompanied his parents to Lyon county, and he has resided here continuously since.

John attended school in Island Lake and Coon Creek townships until sixteen years of age. He then was a student in Marshall for

some time, after which he taught school in district No. 70 several terms. He then took up his labors on the farm with his father and has continued that work since. In addition to farming, our subject raises a great deal of stock, among other breeds, Duroc-Jersey hogs, Jersey cattle, Shropshire sheep and Plymouth Rock chickens. Mr. Anderson is a member of the Island Lake Presbyterian Church, of which he is treasurer and an elder. He is a member of the Workmen lodge and holds stock in the Farmers Independent Elevator Company of Russell and the Farmers Mutual Telephone Company. He is also a stockholder in the Independent Harvester Company of Plano, Illinois, and is the owner of the southeast quarter of section 33, Island Lake township.

During Mr. Anderson's long residence in Lyon county he has been called upon to serve several times in an official capacity. He formerly held the following offices: Assessor of Coon Creek township four years, justice of the peace several years, road overseer several years. He was secretary of the Farmers Independent Elevator Company of Russell two years, superintendent of the Sunday School of the Island Lake Presbyterian Church several years and secretary and treasurer of the Island Lake Cheese Company seven years. Mr. Anderson is now secretary of the Farmers Mutual Telephone Company, secretary and treasurer of the Island Lake Cemetery Association and solicitor for the Hope Mutual Insurance Company of Tyler, his territory being Coon Creek and Island Lake townships. Mr. Anderson has been very successful in his undertakings.

JOHN B. REGNIER (1883), Lake Marshall township farmer, was born in Kankakee county, Illinois, October 29, 1865. He is a son of Isaac and Mary (Toushette) Regnier, natives of Canada. The parents moved to Illinois, where our subject was born, received his schooling, and grew to manhood.

In 1883 John Regnier accompanied his parents to Lyon county and his father purchased land in Grandview township. John remained with his parents until 1888, when he started farming for himself on eighty acres in the same township which had been given to him by his father. He later sold this and purchased a half section in Fair-

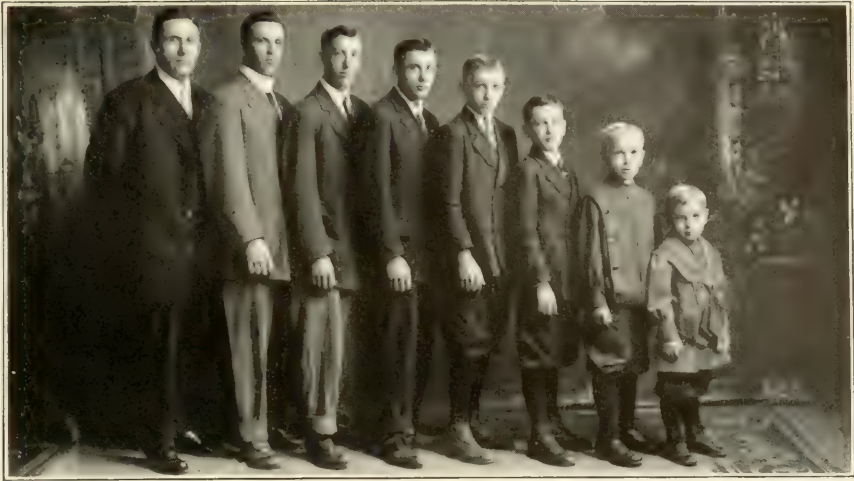
view township, which he farmed until 1907, when he sold and later purchased the southeast quarter of section 8, and the northwest quarter of section 17, Lake Marshall township. On March 1, 1912, Mr. Regnier purchased the east half and the east half of the west half of section 29, Lucas township, making him a farm of 480 acres in that precinct.

Our subject also engages in stock raising, among other breeds, Red Polled Angus cattle, Poland China hogs and Belgian horses. He owns stock in the Farmers Elevator Company of Marshall. Mr. Regnier is a member of the M. W. A. and K. of C. lodges and of the Catholic church.

The subject of this review was married at Ghent December 29, 1890, to Severine Caron, a native of Canada. Mrs. Regnier was born September 29, 1864, and is a daughter of Isaac and Adaline (Bosquet) Caron, the former a native of Canada and the latter of Vermont. Mr. and Mrs. Regnier are the parents of the following children: Oscar A., born September 16, 1891; Edna B., born October 24, 1892; Charles Henry, born August 18, 1895; Peter N., born September 10, 1896; Olivine O., born October 1, 1897; Emil L., born February 28, 1902; and Adleine N., born July 30, 1905.

ANTON E. ANDERSON (1872) is proprietor of the A. E. Anderson elevator in Cottonwood, having in 1909, in company with his brothers, George and Gabriel, bought the Northwestern elevator. The company buys grain and sells coal and wood. Mr. Anderson is secretary and a director of the Norwegian Mutual Fire Insurance Company of Eidsvold and is president of the Home Telephone Company of Cottonwood. He was also one of the organizers and a former president of the Cottonwood Hardware Company.

Anton E. Anderson was born in Coon Prairie, Wisconsin, August 6, 1869. His parents, Endre and Bertha Anderson Barstad, were pioneer residents of Wisconsin and were among the first settlers in Lucas township, Lyon county, locating there in 1872, and taking as a homestead the southwest quarter of section 8. There the parents resided until their deaths, the father in 1885 and the mother in 1899. Our sub-



A. E. ANDERSON AND HIS SEVEN SONS



ANTON E. ANDERSON  
Of Cottonwood, Who Has Lived in Lyon  
County Forty Years.



THE A. E. ANDERSON ELEVATOR



HOME OF A. E. ANDERSON



ject attended the country school and worked on the home farm until the age of fifteen, then hiring out as a farm hand for a number of years. At the age of eighteen he engaged in business in Cottonwood, continuing until his marriage three years later.

July 20, 1890, occurred the ceremony which made Anton E. Anderson and Martha Orwoll man and wife. To this union were born eight sons: Endre B., Sylfest M., Virgil L., Archie M., Nuel Fridtjof (deceased), Fridtjof B., Nordal O. and Earl R. Mrs. Anderson died December 17, 1907. After his marriage Mr. Anderson moved to his farm in Lucas and ran the place five years, then engaging in the grain business at Cottonwood, where he represented the Minnesota & Western Grain Company of Minneapolis fifteen years, until buying the Northwestern Elevator Company's business.

Mr. Anderson has been a member of the school board eight years, seven years of that time as secretary. He is active in church circles of the Norwegian Lutherans, being secretary of Silo Church of Cottonwood. He is one of the board of directors of the annuity fund and financial secretary of the Montevideo district of the United Norwegian Lutheran church of America.

Our subject has living the following sisters and brothers: Dena (Mrs. O. H. Hatlestad), of Cottonwood; Tonnes, on the old homestead in Lucas; Henry E., of Minnesota; John, of Parkland, Washington; Gabriel and Anton, of this sketch, both of Cottonwood.

June 9, 1911, Mr. Anderson married a second time, taking for his wife Selma Nelson, a native of Pipestone county, born March 15, 1882.

CHARLES DOVE (1885) is one of Amiret township's successful farmers and stock raisers. His 160-acre farm, the northeast quarter of section 11, is one of the fine improved tracts in the township, and he is also the owner of 150 acres in Redwood county. Mr. Dove in his stock raising is partial to the Shorthorn breed of cattle and Duroc-Jersey swine.

Charles Dove is a native of Lincoln shire, England, and is a son of James and Annie

(Atkins) Dove, now deceased. Charles was born in 1855 and was brought up in England. At the age of twenty-five years he crossed the water to Canada, where he lived one and one-half years. He came to Lyon county in 1885. He settled in Amiret and for several years was employed on farms in the vicinity.

The subject of this sketch was married in Marshall October 14, 1888, to Mary Amelia Berkey. After his marriage Mr. Dove rented land and commenced farming for himself. He later bought the northeast quarter of section 11 and is still farming the place. He is a stockholder of the creamery company at Tracy.

Mrs. Dove is the daughter of Peter and Johanna (Garver) Berkey. She was born in Grand Rapids, Michigan, March 4, 1856. To Mr. and Mrs. Dove two children have been born, Herbert J. and Horace A. Charles Dove is a member of the Modern Brotherhood of America lodge.

JOHN C. ROGDE (1877), until recently of Eidsvold township, now of Dunn county, Wisconsin, was born in Hardanger, Norway, May 28, 1851. His parents, Christian and Bretha A. (Kragevik) Rogde, are buried in their native land. The maternal grandfather of Mr. Rogde fought in the war between Norway and Sweden in which the former secured its independence.

After quitting school at the age of fourteen years, young Rogde spent six years on a fishing vessel. He came to America in the spring of 1872, lived in Stoughton, Wisconsin, a short time, and then located near Deerfield, of the same state, where he worked at farm labor five years. With money he saved he purchased a team of horses and a wagon and in the spring of 1877 drove to Lyon county, arriving in Minnesota during the month of June.

For a year or more after his arrival Mr. Rogde worked as a farm hand. Soon after his arrival he traded his team and wagon for a homestead right in Westerheim township, and, after his marriage in December, 1878, he moved to his claim, proved up on it, and engaged in farming there until the spring of 1902. At that time he moved to his Eidsvold township farm, which he had purchased the fall before. He sold his

Westerheim farm in 1911. Mr. Rogde is now the owner of 480 acres in Eidsvold and a 200-acre farm in Dunn county, Wisconsin, to which place he moved in the spring of 1912.

In the early days Mr. Rogde experienced the hardships encountered by all the early settlers of Lyon county, but he persevered and has come upon prosperous times. In 1907 our subject paid a three months' visit to his old home in Norway.

Mr. Rogde was a member of the Westerheim Township Board of Supervisors a number of years, was treasurer of that township several years, and in 1884 and 1885 he was the assessor. For three years he was a member of the Eidsvold Township Board. He was one of the organizers of the Farmers & Merchants Supply Company of Minneota, was a director of the company for a number of years, and still has stock in it. He and his family are members of the Norwegian Lutheran church and he holds membership in the Masonic lodge of Minneota and the Chapter of Royal Arch Masons at Marshall.

The first marriage of Mr. Rogde occurred at Marshall December 3, 1878, when he wedded Anna Thompson. She was born in Norway February 14, 1851, and died on Christmas Day, 1888. Four children were born to the union, as follows: Bertha (Mrs. O. H. Sterk), of Marshall; Albert, who resides near Amiret; Sarah (Mrs. Joseph White), of Minneota; and Carrie, of Marshall.

At Marshall, on April 24, 1891, Mr. Rogde's second marriage occurred. His bride was Nancy Ann Heimdahl, who was born in Dane county, Wisconsin, September 3, 1852. Mrs. Rogde's parents, Olaf and Haegae (Bergstie) Heimdahl, both deceased, were born in Norway and settled in Dane county, Wisconsin, in 1844. Two children have been born to Mr. Rogde and his wife, both of whom reside at home. They are named Oritha Ann and Gerhart Christen.

HENRY J. BOT (1887) is manager of and buyer for the Farmers Elevator Company of Ghent. He was born in Uithuizen, Province of Groningen, Holland, October 14, 1876.

In 1887 Henry accompanied his parents to America and Lyon county. The family located in Grandview township, where they owned 480 acres of land. Henry resided on the farm with his parents until twenty-five years of age and then moved to Ghent and bought grain for the Bingham Brothers' Elevator Company until 1910. He then entered the employ of the Farmers' Company and has since been with that firm. Mr. Bot is the owner of a farm in Vallers township. He is a member of the Catholic church and the Catholic Order of Foresters lodge. He is the village recorder and was justice of the peace, village treasurer and treasurer of the town board for a number of years.

Mr. Bot was married August 15, 1908, in Holland to Grada Peters. After his marriage he made a trip through Germany, Switzerland, England, Italy, Holland and Belgium. Mr. and Mrs. Bot are the parents of one child, Debora Mary, born May 18, 1909.

The parents of our subject are the late William H. Bot and Debora B. (Schrender) Bot. The father died in 1907; the mother resides in Ghent. To them were born the following children: Hero W., Henry J. and William H., of Ghent; Bernard, Renier, John H. and Catherina (Mrs. Joseph Senden), all of Lyon county. One daughter, Theresa (Mrs. Edward Maertens), died in 1908.

The Ghent Farmers Elevator Company was organized in 1909 by the farmers in the vicinity of Ghent and the elevator was built at that time. The capitalization was \$10,000. The capacity of the elevator is 20,000 bushels. The company buys and ships grain and sells coal, flour, oil meal, bran, shorts, grain and seeds. In the season of 1910-11 they bought 200,000 bushels of grain. The officers of the company are as follows: President, John Breen; secretary, Edward Maertens; treasurer, Charles Foulon; manager, Henry Bot. These, with Mathew Hennen, John Brewers and Henry Vanhee, constitute the board of directors.

JOSEPH PRINCEN (1883), a farmer residing in Lake Marshall township, was born in Weert, Holland, October 21, 1873.

His parents are Hubert and Phelomina (Vuggen) Princen, who conducted a soap and salt factory and a brick and roofing factory in the old country. When two years of age, in 1883, Joseph accompanied his parents to America, came direct to Lyon county, and his father purchased land near Ghent. There our subject attended school, working at home until twenty-eight years of age.

In 1901 Mr. Princen commenced farming for himself on the southeast quarter of section 3, Grandview township, land which he had purchased from his father. He operated that place one year and then rented his father's farm three years, during which time he purchased forty acres more in the same township. After leaving his father's place Mr. Princen moved to his own farm, which he conducted until 1905, when he bought 320 acres on section 34, Grandview township, and eighty acres on section 3, Lynd township. He moved to the latter place and farmed it until 1909, when he purchased 400 acres on section 1, Lynd township, and resided on the place eight months, having sold the place the same year he purchased it. He then moved to the east half of section 21, Lake Marshall township, which he had previously bought and where he now lives.

Mr. Princen holds membership in the Catholic Order of Foresters lodge and has served on the Township Board. He was treasurer seven years and clerk two years of school district No. 12. Mr. Princen is a member of the Catholic church.

On December 12, 1904, occurred the marriage of Leona Monnet to our subject. She is a native of France and was born September 29, 1877. Her parents are Julian and Stephanie (Guillot) Monnet. Mrs. Princen came to the United States alone in 1902. Mr. and Mrs. Princen are the parents of four children: Joseph J., born September 21, 1905; Maria, born August 21, 1906; Julian, born February 4, 1908; Bernadette, born July 22, 1911.

MYRON W. HARDEN (1891), president of the First National Bank of Marshall, is one of the substantial and popular business men of the county seat, having been cashier of the bank since its organization

twenty-one years ago. During these years he has taken a prominent part in the business and social affairs of his community.

Myron W. Harden is of colonial stock, his ancestors having settled in New England before the Revolutionary War. His paternal grandparents were John and Sophia (Cook) Harden, who were natives of New York but of New England descent. They came West late in life and settled at Burr Oak, Iowa. At that place John Harden died August 31, 1864, aged seventy-nine years; Sophia Harden died in 1872.

The parents of our subject were Halsted J. and Ellen (Willsie) Harden, both natives of Clinton county, New York. The Willsie family is also of early American stock, the great-grandfather of our subject having been a veteran of the Revolutionary War. The maternal grandparents of Mr. Harden were John and Sabra (Hutchison) Willsie, natives of New York, who in 1855 located in Iowa and later became early settlers of Fillmore county, Minnesota. They both died in that county at ages of about seventy-five years. Halsted J. Harden and family came West in 1857 and settled in Burr Oak, Iowa. Both parents died in that place, Mrs. Harden at the age of forty-three years and Mr. Harden aged seventy-two years. They were the parents of six children, of whom four are living.

In Clinton county, New York, on May 6, 1851, occurred the birth of Myron W. Harden. When six years of age he accompanied the family to Burr Oak, Iowa, and on his father's farm near that place he grew to manhood. At the age of twenty-five years he secured the appointment as deputy clerk of the district court of Winneshie county and held the office from 1876 to 1880, making his home at Decorah, the county seat. After serving as deputy four years, he was elected clerk of court and served a four-year term. In June, 1884, Mr. Harden went to Grafton, North Dakota, and from that date until he came to Lyon county in 1891 he was assistant cashier of a bank.

In the year last mentioned Mr. Harden located in Marshall and in partnership with H. M. Langland and R. M. Addison organized the First National Bank of Mar-

shall. He served as cashier until recently elevated to the presidency, and the active management of the bank has been almost entirely in his hands. Under his able management it has grown in favor and it ranks today as one of the strong financial institutions of Southwestern Minnesota. Mr. Harden has large real estate interests, owning over one thousand acres of Minnesota land and a pretty home in Marshall.

In educational matters Mr. Harden has been especially interested and he has served as a member of the local Board of Education for the last fourteen years. He is a thirty-second degree Mason, holding membership in the Scottish Rite and Zarah Temple of Shriners, Minneapolis.

Mr. Harden married May Standing at Decorah, Iowa, on June 4, 1884. She was born in that city, the daughter of Leonard and Mary (Prothro) Standing. The family came originally from New York and settled in Iowa about 1856. Her father was a banker of Decorah and died there at the age of fifty-four years. Mr. and Mrs. Harden have two children, Mate and Leonard S.

EDWARD MEYER (1876) was for many years a successful farmer of Lyon county and now lives a retired life in the little village of Garvin. He knows the meaning of the word pioneering and is an early resident of the county, having come to the county thirty-six years ago and having lived in the county almost continuously since that date.

The gentleman whose name heads this sketch was born in Freystadt, Prussia, May 26, 1841. He is the only one of a family of three children to come to America, his sisters, Caroline and Anna, living in the Fatherland. His parents, Leopold and Caroline (Mertius) Meyer, are both buried in the old country. Edward came to America in 1859, lived a few months in Franklin county, Missouri, and then settled at Meredosia, Illinois. He taught a German school in that village and enlisted in the army at Jacksonville, Illinois, on April 7, 1862.

For three years and one month Mr. Meyer served in the army as a member

of Company A, Twelfth United States Infantry. His service was with the Army of the Potomac and he participated in all the engagements of that army up to August 19, 1864, when he was taken prisoner near Petersburg. He was incarcerated in Libby Prison, at Bell Island and at Salisbury, North Carolina.

After the war Mr. Meyer returned to Illinois and for two years lived at Jacksonville, one year employed in the insane asylum and one year as a clerk. He then lived in Sheboygan, Wisconsin, until coming to Minnesota in 1876. Mr. Meyer came to Lyon county by way of Mower county, making the trip in a prairie schooner drawn by oxen. Upon his arrival he traded his team and wagon for a tree claim, the southwest quarter of section 32, Sodus township. His first home was a combination log and sod shanty.

During the first few years of his residence in Lyon county Mr. Meyer had trouble to make both ends meet. For several years he worked at odd jobs to support himself and during the hard winter of 1880-81 he worked for his board. A few years after coming to the county Mr. Meyer sold his tree claim to A. R. Chace, of Marshall, and took a homestead in Johnsville township, Redwood county, where he lived two and one-half years. He then returned to Lyon county and bought eighty acres of land in Custer township, later adding to his holdings by the purchase of railroad lands. He made his home on section 2 for about six years and thereafter for many years he lived on section 3. In 1901 Mr. Meyer gave up farming and has since lived in Garvin. He has never married.

For three years Mr. Meyer was a director of school district No. 4 and for the same length of time was the district treasurer. He served one term as township treasurer. Mr. Meyer is a member of the Congregational church, the Grand Army order, and has taken many degrees in Masonry, holding membership in the Blue Lodge, Chapter, Commandery, the Shrine at Minneapolis, and the Scottish Rite at Winona.

HANS BENSON (1882) is one of the big farmers of Shelburne township, where

he has had his home for the past thirty years. The home place is the southwest quarter of section 5 and he also owns the northwest quarter of 9, the northwest quarter of 7, and the southeast quarter of the southeast quarter of 6, making a farm of 520 acres. The place is well improved and Mr. Benson has one of the finest homes in the township.

Our subject was born in Naes, Norway, October 13, 1846, a son of Brnt and Rognlie (Halborson) Benson. He attended the common schools of his native land until fourteen years of age, and thereafter until he was twenty-one years old he worked on the farm for his father. Mr. Benson came to America in the spring of 1868 and during the next three years worked at various occupations at La Crosse, Wisconsin. He moved to Fillmore county, Minnesota, in 1871, where he worked at farm labor until coming to Lyon county in the spring of 1882.

When he arrived in Lyon county Mr. Benson had only \$320. To meet expenses he worked the first year as a section hand on the railroad between Tyler and Burchar. He experienced trying times in getting a start, but persevered and came upon more prosperous times. He purchased eighty acres of his present farm from the railroad company upon his arrival and from time to time added to his landed possessions until he now owns nearly a section of land.

Mr. Benson is a stockholder of the State Bank of Florence. He is a member of the Norwegian Lutheran church of Florence and was formerly a trustee of the same. For three years he was a director of his school district and has several times served as road overseer.

The marriage of Mr. Benson to Christine Anderson occurred in Fillmore county, Minnesota, in 1883. Mrs. Benson was born in Norway. They are the parents of the following children: Bert, Aletta (Mrs. John Anderson), of Tyler; Randa (Mrs. Victor Anderson), of Florence; Clara, Adolph, Lena, Emma, Henry and Elmer.

PAUL W. GIESE (1882) is manager of the Farmers Co-operative Company of

Balaton and is interested in several other business enterprises of that village. He has been a resident of Lyon county many years and is one of the prosperous business men of the little village on the southern edge of the county.

Paul Giese is the eldest of five children (the others being Minnie, Charles, Albert and Otto) born to Charles F. and Fredricka (Mellenthin) Giese, who reside on a farm in Murray county. He was born in the province of Pommern, Germany, October 29, 1870. On the twenty-second day of April, 1882, he arrived with the family from the old country in Tracy. There he lived a little less than eight years, during the last few years of which time he was employed as clerk by the railroad company.

In the fall of 1889 Mr. Giese took charge of a Murray county farm, not far from Tracy, which was owned by his father. Until 1895 he conducted that during the summer seasons, while working as second man in Tracy elevators and buying stock for E. L. Starr. He then located in Balaton, was employed as grain buyer for the Winona Mill Company until the failure of the company two years later, and then until August, 1900, he was employed in a like capacity for the Atlas Company, which was a company reorganized from the former company.

On the date last mentioned Mr. Giese formed a partnership with C. W. Candee and engaged in the grain and live stock business under the firm name of Candee & Giese until the death of the senior member of the firm in 1903. After the death of his partner Mr. Giese continued the live stock business. In 1905 he became the manager of the recently organized Farmers Co-operative Company, a position he has since filled. He still engages in the stock business on his own account and is the proprietor of a meat market which he established in September, 1910.

The Farmers Co-operative Company was incorporated with a capital of \$5000 in July, 1905, for the purpose of dealing in grain, flour and feed, and the new elevator and other buildings were erected at that time. The present officers of the company are as follows: C. F. Norwood, president; H. G. Brockway, secretary and

treasurer; Paul W. Giese, manager. The directors, made up from farmers of the vicinity, are as follows: C. F. Norwood, H. G. Brockway, James Egan, E. E. Johnson, Justus England, George Johnson, E. John Erickson, L. E. Peterson and B. M. Olson.

Paul Giese was married near Balaton on November 28, 1906, to Anna Smerling, a native of Murray county. They have two children, Sophia and Minnie. Mr. Giese is a member of the Masonic, Odd Fellows and Modern Woodmen lodges. He served as assessor of Balaton for a number of terms.

JACOB J. JANSEN (1885) is one of the most prosperous farmers of Lake Marshall township and has been a resident of Lyon county over a quarter of a century. He is a native of Holland and was born at Bemmel September 15, 1867, a son of Albert and Annie (Boerboom) Jansen. The father, a tiller of the soil, came to Lyon county in 1885 and purchased land near Ghent, which he operated until his death ten years later. The mother died in 1893. Both parents are buried at Ghent.

Jacob resided with his parents until their deaths. He had received his education in the land of his nativity, where he attended school until seventeen years of age, at which time he accompanied his parents to America. After his parents' death, in company with his brother, he purchased 680 acres of land in Lake Marshall township, which they farmed together several years and then divided. Our subject engages extensively in stock raising. He raises Poland China hogs and Durham and Shorthorn cattle. He is a member of the Catholic church. He holds stock in the farmers' elevators of Ghent and Marshall and in the Lyon County Agricultural Association.

Mr. Jansen was married June 7, 1904, to Mary Senden, a daughter of Hebert and Mary (Fossen) Senden, old residents of Lyon county, both of whom are now deceased. Mrs. Jansen is a native of Holland and was born September 12, 1881, at Voerdaal. Mr. and Mrs. Jansen are the parents of the following children: Hebert, born March 6, 1905; Antonette, born

September 14, 1906; Frank, born September 14, 1908. Hebert attends the Catholic Sisters' School at Marshall.

HERMAN J. ARNDT (1882) is the owner of the northwest quarter of section 8, Lyons township, and has lived in Lyon county thirty years. He is a native of Germany and was born at Rogasen February 28, 1866, a son of Daniel and Susan (Helwig) Arndt. Both parents are deceased. The former died in 1901.

Herman received his education in the land of his birth, attending school until fourteen years of age, after which he worked for his father on the farm two years and then came to America. He located at Balaton, and near that place worked at farm labor. The next seven years of his life were spent at farm labor in Yellow Medicine, Murray and Redwood counties.

In 1897 the subject of this review purchased 200 acres of land in Lyons township and later bought a tree claim, which he sold in 1910. He has one of the finest improved farms in the county and raises a great deal of stock, including Poland China hogs, grade cattle and Rhode Island Red chickens. Mr. Arndt is a member of the A. O. U. W. lodge and a stockholder of the Farmers Elevator Company of Russell. He has been director of school district No. 69 for twenty consecutive years and was road overseer in Lyons township two years. Mr. Arndt's undertakings have been very successful.

Mr. Arndt is a man of family. He was married December 3, 1889, to Emma Bot, a daughter of Gustaf Hayes. Mrs. Arndt died October 22, 1896. On May 23, 1897, he was married a second time, to Pauline Degner, a daughter of Ludwig and Amelia (Hayes) Degner. Her mother died in May, 1881; the father resides at Gnesen, Germany. Mrs. Arndt was born September 2, 1877, at Rogasen, Germany. Mr. and Mrs. Arndt are the parents of the following named children: Anna Elizabeth, born March 3, 1898; Henry Ludwig, born November 17, 1899; Elsie Wilhelmina, born December 14, 1901; Natalie Gertrude, born August 22, 1903; Rudolph Ernest, born February 11, 1906; Theodore John,

born September 16, 1910. All the children reside at home.

HENRY J. PATTRIDGE (1878) is the senior member of the Tracy mercantile firm of Pattridge Brothers Company, the largest and one of the oldest business establishments of the city. The business was established in March, 1883, by Henry J. and Otis L. Pattridge and was conducted under the name of Pattridge Brothers until the spring of 1908. Then Clay B. Pattridge, son of the subject of this review, was admitted to the firm and Pattridge Brothers Company was incorporated. The officers are as follows: H. J. Pattridge, president; Otis L. Pattridge, vice president and treasurer; Clay B. Pattridge, secretary. The first home of the store was a small frame building on the site adjoining the First National Bank. The present structure, a double-front, two-story brick building, was erected in 1891 by H. J. Pattridge, the present owner of the building.

Henry J. Pattridge was born in Olmsted county, Minnesota, September 1, 1855, and O. L. Pattridge in Maquoketa, Iowa, August 12, 1853. They grew to manhood on their father's farm, which had been taken as a pre-emption claim in an early day. They accompanied the family to Spring Valley in 1875. In 1878 H. J. Pattridge moved to Marshall and for a few years was employed as clerk in A. C. Chittenden's store. He moved to Tracy in the spring of 1883 and with his brother engaged in the business with which they have ever since been connected.

The marriage of Henry J. Pattridge to Minniett Savage occurred at Marshall May 11, 1880. Mrs. Pattridge is a native of St. Charles, Minnesota. They have three children, Clay B., now a member of the firm; Vivian and Walter H. Henry Pattridge has served as member of the City Council and of the Board of Education.

O. L. Pattridge was married to Martha Parks at Pleasant Grove, Minnesota, October 11, 1877. Three children were born to them, only one living, Mark O. Pattridge, a practising dentist of Minneapolis. Both brothers belong to the Masonic fraternity.

OTIS L. PATTRIDGE (1883) is one of the founders and members of the firm of Pattridge Brothers Company, who conduct the leading mercantile establishment of Tracy. He was born at Maquoketa, Iowa, August 12, 1853.

At the age of one year he was taken with the family to Olmsted county, Minnesota, and there grew to manhood. Later he moved to Spring Valley, and in 1883 he located in Tracy and in partnership with his brother engaged in business. During the twenty-nine years the brothers have been in business in Tracy they have prospered. They are both interested in the Citizens State Bank and in partnership own several farms in Lyon county and one in Murray county. Otis Pattridge is a member of the Masonic lodge and has served on the Board of Education.

Otis Pattridge was married to Martha Parks, of Pleasant Grove, Minnesota. They have one child, Dr. Mark O. Pattridge, a dentist of Minneapolis.

The father of the Pattridge brothers is Albert Pattridge. He was born in Highgate, Vermont, October 22, 1829, and in an early day moved to Maquoketa, Iowa. There he engaged in farming and the blacksmith business. He pre-empted land in Olmsted county, Minnesota, in 1854, lived there twenty years, and then located at Spring Valley. He was in business in Minneapolis several years, and in 1891 moved to Tracy to make his permanent home. Although over eighty years of age, Mr. Pattridge is active and healthy and puts in regular hours as cashier at the store. He is a member of the Masonic lodge. The mother of the Pattridge brothers was Eunice Bradish, a native of Vermont. She died August 13, 1869. The two sons at Tracy are the only living children of the family. One daughter, Helen, is deceased.

ELLSWORTH E. DAVIS (1893) is a farmer and a member of the Board of County Commissioners residing in Lynd township. Mr. Davis is a native of Wisconsin and was born near Oshkosh May 7, 1862, a son of Shadrach and Louise (Sharatt) Davis, of Oshkosh, Wisconsin. The father is a native of Wales and the mother of Eng-

land. The father came to America with his parents when he was eleven years of age, locating in Pennsylvania. After reaching maturity he went to Wisconsin, where he still resides.

Ellsworth received his schooling in Winnebago county, Wisconsin, where he attended school until eighteen years of age. He then entered the employ of his father, for whom he worked until twenty-one years of age. Then he went to work in the pineries, where he worked five winters. He again took up farming, this time operating his father's farm. He continued working his father's place until he came to Lyon county in 1893. Mr. Davis purchased two hundred forty acres in Lynd township, which he still owns and manages. Besides farming, Mr. Davis raises considerable stock, among other breeds, Duroc-Jersey hogs and Shorthorn cattle, besides a great number of fowl. He is a successful farmer and stockraiser.

The subject of this sketch is a member of the M. W. A. lodge. He is a stockholder in the following enterprises: Farmers Elevator Company of Lynd, of which he is president; the town hall company of Lynd; Lyon County Agricultural Association. He was an officer of school district No. 1 for twelve years and was clerk of Lynd township. In the fall of 1910 he was elected county commissioner to represent the fourth district.

On September 29, 1886, Mr. Davis was married to Jennie Fitzgerald, a daughter of James and Mary Fitzgerald, of Oshkosh, Wisconsin. Mr. and Mrs. Fitzgerald are natives of Ireland. Mrs. Davis was born in Wisconsin on Christmas Day, 1863. Mr. and Mrs. Davis are the parents of the following children: Homer, born June 20, 1887; Belle, born October 14, 1888; Olive, born January 16, 1890; Hazel, born May 6, 1891; Albert, born December 3, 1893; Bernice, born April 4, 1895; Mark, born July 22, 1897; Hugh, born January 31, 1899; Vesta, born September 12, 1900; Alma, born July 26, 1902; George, born December 8, 1904. All reside at home with their parents.

HENRY J. BURCKHARDT (1887), Coon Creek township farmer, was born in Stephen-

son county, Illinois, April 29, 1874, the son of John and Albertina (Watzke) Burckhardt, natives of Germany. The father died two years ago; the mother resides on the old home place near the village of Russell. They came to Lyon county in 1894.

Henry attended school near his home in Illinois and when thirteen years of age came to Lyon county and worked for his brother-in-law, John Sullivan, for two and one-half years. Returning to Illinois, he worked for his father on the farm until 1894. Then his father sold out, came to Lyon county, and became a permanent resident, having purchased sections 23 and 26, Coon Creek township, in 1885. Later our subject purchased from his father the northeast quarter of section 26, upon which he has made all the improvements. He has a fine home. Mr. Burckhardt raises and ships a great number of cattle, sheep and hogs. He is a member of the Presbyterian church and the M. W. A. and R. N. A. lodges. He holds stock in the Farmers Elevator Company of Russell and in the Farmers Mutual Telephone Company.

On January 23, 1898, occurred the marriage of Mr. Burckhardt, in Coon Creek township, to Emma D. Henrichs, a daughter of Fred and Frederica (Trust) Henrichs, who now reside in Todd county, Minnesota. Mrs. Burckhardt was born in Bremer county, Iowa, January 23, 1880. To Mr. and Mrs. Burckhardt have been born the following named eight children: John F., born March 2, 1899; Gladys R., born February 11, 1900; Florence A., born April 13, 1901; Hazel M., October 17, 1902; Laura, born November 26, 1903, died when three months old; Walter, born June 24, 1905, died when two and one-half years old; Orville, born January 7, 1909; Robert, born October 2, 1910.

THOMAS P. CULSHAW (1881) is a jeweler and optician of Minneota. He was born in England October 14, 1877. His parents are Robert and Helen (Parker) Culshaw, who were early settlers of Lyon county. They came in 1881 and were among Archbishop Ireland's colonists who purchased railroad land in Lyon county. They are the parents of eleven children: Mrs. Helen Buckley, of Lyon county; Joseph, of Wells, Minnesota; Mrs. Agnes Bolton, of Porter, Minnesota; Charles, of Minneota; Robert,

of Hopkins, Minnesota; Mrs. Winifred Bolton, of Porter, Minnesota; Theresa Broderick, of Ballard, Washington; Thomas P., of this sketch; Mary, who resides at home; John and William I., who reside near Minneota.

The subject of this sketch accompanied his parents to Lyon county in 1881. He resided with them on the farm until 1902, when he went to Minneapolis and learned the jewelry business. He then worked one year in Marshall and one year at Luverne, Minnesota. In 1906 he engaged in the jewelry business at Minneota which he still owns. He carries a complete line of jewelry, musical goods and pianos, and does all kinds of repair work in the jewelry line. Mr. Culshaw is a member of the Village Council. He holds membership in the Modern Woodmen, Yeomen, Catholic Order of Foresters and Knights of Columbus lodges.

Mr. Culshaw was married in Minneota June 8, 1906, to Marie Princen, a native of Holland. To Mr. and Mrs. Culshaw have been born the following three children: Antoinette, Helen and Gladys. The last named died in infancy.

M. O. GORSETH (1881) is the proprietor of a general merchandise store in the village of Florence. He is vice president of the State Bank of Florence and ex-postmaster of that village. Mr. Gorseth is a native of Norway and was born November 30, 1861, a son of Ole and Brit Gorseth, both of whom died in the land of the midnight sun. He has one sister, Mrs. C. P. Myran, who resides in Lyon county.

When twenty years of age our subject came to the United States, located in Lyon county, and worked several years in Shelburne township as a farm hand. In 1891 he purchased the northwest quarter of section 18, Shelburne township, which he farmed ten years. In 1901 he moved to Florence and purchased the J. A. Martin general store, which he still conducts. He carried a complete stock of dry goods, groceries, furnishing goods, shoes, hats, caps and notions. He is a stockholder of the State Bank of Florence and a member of the Norwegian Lutheran church and of the Modern Woodmen lodge.

Mr. Gorseth was married in Lyon county

May 28, 1897, to Eva Ceder, a native of Sweden. Mr. and Mrs. Gorseth are the parents of two children, Sheldon and Ruth.

PATRICK FORD (1880) is a native of Ireland but has been a resident of this country since he was one year old. He has been a farmer of Amiret township since 1880 and owns 240 acres on section 31.

The subject of this sketch was born June 12, 1849. When he was one year of age his family came to America and located in New Jersey, where Patrick's father worked in a hat factory four years. At the end of that time the family moved to Marquette county, Wisconsin, where the father bought land. There young Ford received his education and grew to manhood amid the surroundings of farm life.

At the age of twenty-four Patrick Ford was married. The ceremony occurred in Wisconsin January 11, 1874, and the young lady who became his wife was Margrette Curley, a daughter of Peter and Rose (McEninany) Curley, natives of Ireland. Mrs. Ford was born October 7, 1852. By her marriage to Mr. Ford she became the mother of eleven children. Their names are Cathrine, Frank, Martha, Mary, Charles, Gertrude, Helen, Henry, Luella, James and Vincent.

After his marriage Mr. Ford started farming for himself, having bought eighty acres near Unity, Wisconsin. He lived in the Badger State until 1880, when he sold his interests there and moved to Lyon county. The journey was accomplished by ox team, and four weeks was necessary to make the trip. Mr. Ford bought eighty acres of land in Amiret township and later bought an additional quarter section, all of which land he has since farmed. He raises Red Polled cattle.

Michael Ford, father of our subject, and his wife, Cathrine (McDonough) Ford, were natives of Ireland. Both are dead. Mr. Ford is a member of the Catholic church.

HELGE K. HELGESON (1878) is one of the prosperous and up-to-date farmers of Eidsvold township and owns the northwest quarter of section 2. He is one of the substantial men of Eidsvold, in which precinct he has lived since he was three and one-half years of age.

The subject of this review was born in Juneau county, Wisconsin, December 14, 1874, the son of Knute and Martha (Forland) Helgeson. The former was born in Roldahl, Norway, the latter in Suldahl, Norway. They came to America early in life and were married in Juneau county, Wisconsin, in 1869. Knute Helgeson died in Lyon county May 3, 1889, aged sixty-three years. Mrs. Helgeson resides with her son and is seventy-two years old. There are three children: Helge K., Sena and Annie (Mrs. Roy Hathland), of Clarkfield, Minnesota.

In 1878 the Helgeson family came to Lyon county in one of the well-remembered prairie schooners and the father took as a homestead claim the northwest quarter of section 2, Eidsvold township, the farm now owned by his son. After their arrival in the new home the family possessions consisted of one horse and \$100 in cash. The only improvement on the place was a claim shack erected by a squatter.

Ever since that time Helge Helgeson has resided on the old homestead, attending school and working for his father during his boyhood days. He has had charge of the farm during the past thirteen years and is now its owner. Within the last four years Mr. Helgeson has expended many thousands of dollars in improvements and he has one of the best-improved farms in the county. On the place is a two-story, nine-room modern residence, equipped with bath rooms, hot water heating system and waterworks. There is also a new barn, 48x60 feet, and a clay block silo, 16x32 feet, erected in the summer of 1912. It is the intention of Mr. Helgeson to feed stock on an extensive scale hereafter.

Mr. Helgeson has a complete J. I. Case threshing outfit, an automobile, and other conveniences that form the equipment of the present up-to-date farmer. He served as a member of the Eidsvold Township Board of Supervisors four years and was assessor two years. He holds membership in the Modern Woodmen and Yeomen lodges.

Julia Bakken became the wife of Mr. Helgeson on May 16, 1900. She was born on her father's homestead on section 10, Eidsvold township, and is a daughter of Knute and Carina Bakken, pioneer settlers of the township. Mr. and Mrs. Helgeson have six children, as follows: Mildred, born

June 26, 1901; Clarice, born September 30, 1902; Harvey, born October 2, 1904; Marvin, born August 5, 1906; Laura, born October 20, 1908; and Elva, born September 30, 1911.

BERT WILLFORD (1879) has been a continuous resident of Custer township for thirty-three years and is the owner of 320 acres of well improved farming land on sections 15 and 22.

Mr. Willford's parents, Daniel and Malinda (Joy) Willford, the former of whom is deceased and the latter a resident of Balaton, came to Lyon county when Bert was ten years of age, taking as a homestead the northeast quarter of section 22, Custer township, where Bert Willford now resides. Bert grew up on his father's farm in Custer, attending the country school and assisting with the farm work. He has resided continuously on the one place since he came to Lyon county with his parents, with the exception of four years spent on his other farm on section 15.

Our subject was married June 2, 1896, at Tracy, to Mary Price, a native of Blue Earth county. She was born December 30, 1871, and is a daughter of Rees and Ruth (Thomas) Price, both of whom are residents of Tracy. Her parents came to Lyon county in the spring of 1872 and located on a homestead in Monroe township, where they made their home until moving to Tracy in 1910. Mr. and Mrs. Willford are the parents of two children, Danile, born May 4, 1897, and George White, born March 15, 1902.

Mr. Willford has the following brothers and sisters living: Cassius M., of Custer; Clinton, of Saskatchewan, Canada; Hattie (Mrs. J. H. Call), of Birmingham, Alabama; and Mary (Mrs. J. C. Abernathy), of Willard, Montana. Mrs. Willford has two brothers and four sisters: Joseph F., William D. and Winifred, all of Tracy; Eleanor (Mrs. Hugh H. Jones), of Custer; Mabel (Mrs. Philip J. Hughes), of Mountain Lake, Minnesota; and Diana (Mrs. Reuben L. Harris), of Kerman, California.

Mr. Willford is a member of the Modern Woodmen lodge of Garvin. He is a stockholder of the Farmers Independent Elevator Company of the same village.

ROBERT G. MURRISON (1882) is the proprietor of a livery barn at Balaton and has an auto livery in connection. He was born in Poweshiek county, Iowa, June 21, 1878, and came to Lyon county with his parents, James and Rachael H. (Graham) Murrison, in 1882.

The father was born in Scotland and the mother in Canada, the former emigrating from Scotland when thirteen years of age. They were married in Poweshiek county, Iowa, and lived there until the spring of 1882, when they came to Lyon county and bought land in Lyons township, where they resided until they moved to Balaton in 1903. Mr. Murrison died July 6, 1908, aged sixty-three years. Mrs. Murrison resides in Balaton. Mr. and Mrs. Murrison were the parents of the following six children: Mrs. James Shand, of Garvin; Mrs. Henry Shand, of Windom, Montana; Robert G., of this sketch; Isabella G., of Windom, Montana, where she is post-mistress; Maggie G. and Mrs. Alfred E. Anderson, of Rock Lake township. Mr. Murrison, Sr., was president of the Balaton Village Council one or two terms and a member of the School Board. He was one of the organizers of the Western Mutual Fire Insurance Company and was secretary of the company eight or nine years. He was an elder of the Balaton Presbyterian church for several years.

The subject of this sketch resided with his parents in Lyons township until 1903, when he took charge of the farm and operated it until the fall of 1908. In April, 1909, he purchased of E. G. Gifford the livery which he now owns and has conducted since that date. In the fall of 1908 he established an auto livery. He holds membership in the Modern Woodmen and Masonic lodges.

CYRUS P. SHEPARD (1894), city recorder of Marshall, is one of the prominent citizens of Lyon county and a man who has lived an eventful and useful life. For many years he served as register of the United States Land Office at Worthington and at Marshall.

The subject of this biography descends from an old American family that can be traced back to the early days of the country's history. His great grandparents were

Thomas and Ann Shepard, whose children were Thomas, Phineas, Aaron, Anne, Judith, Rhoda and Orrel. Our subject's grandfather was Aaron Shepard, who was born in Connecticut, married a Miss Crocker, and became a resident of Hartford county, of his native state, in 1807. Later he moved to Georgetown, Madison county, New York, where he died at the age of eighty-four years. He was a soldier in the War of 1812.

The Shepards were well represented in the service of their country. There was handed down from generation to generation an old file which had been carried by members of the family in the French and Indian War, the Revolutionary War and the War of 1812. This interesting instrument was lost in battle during the Civil War while being carried by another member of the family, Myron Shepard.

The father of our subject was Aaron Shepard, Jr., who was born in Connecticut and who became a resident of Nunda, New York. He was married to Hattie Parker, a native of Naples, Ontario county, New York. Her father died when Mrs. Shepard was a child and her mother afterwards married Joseph Kibbee. Her grandfather was one of the first settlers of Liberty, New York, and was a soldier of the Revolutionary War. Aaron Shepard, Jr., died in Livingston county, New York, at the age of sixty-eight years, and his wife died in the same place at the age of forty-four years. They had nine children, of whom the following named seven are living: Parker, Melissa, Myron, Harvey, Cyrus P., James and Martha.

Cyrus P. Shepard was born in New York State November 13, 1839, and until he was twenty years of age resided on the home farm. In 1861 our subject started West with the intention of locating in Missouri, but he proceeded to Wisconsin and, manifesting the same loyal spirit as was shown by his ancestors, he joined the boys in blue. He was mustered in as an enlisted man in Company D, of the Fourteenth Wisconsin Infantry, under Captain Polleys, of La Crosse. He was in the service until his muster out at Mobile on October 11, 1865, and participated in the battles of Shiloh, Corinth, Iuka, Tupelo, the siege of Vicksburg, Champion Hills, Edward's Ferry, Nashville, Mobile and many minor engagements. His promotion

was quite rapid and he was mustered out as captain of his company.

At the close of the war Captain Shepard returned to his old New York home and rented his father's farm. In 1868 he located in Stillwater, Minnesota, where he engaged in the mercantile business several years. He settled in Worthington, Minnesota, in 1877 and for many years was a dealer in lumber, fuel and agricultural implements.

During President Cleveland's first administration, in 1886, Mr. Shepard was appointed register of the United States Land Office, then located at Worthington, his territory comprising the country between the Mississippi river and the South Dakota line. He held the office under the appointment until the office was moved to Marshall. During President Cleveland's second administration, in 1894, Mr. Shepard located in Marshall, having again received the appointment of register, in the interim the office having been held by L. M. Lange. Under the second appointment our subject held the government office ten years, until the office was moved to St. Cloud.

Since the removal of the Land Office from Marshall, Mr. Shepard has practically lived a retired life and has been one of the city's highly respected citizens. Several years ago, when the recorder's office needed the services of a competent man, he was called upon to take charge. Later he was elected to the office and has ever since held the position. It gives him light employment and a down-town office, which is the sole reason for his holding the office.

While a resident of Stillwater, Captain Shepard was married, on January 12, 1870, to Anna D. Cowan, a native of Oldtown, Maine. She is also a descendant from an old American family. Her grandfather, Thomas A. Cowan, was born in Maine October 14, 1794, and was married to Clementine Lovejoy, who was born in Vassalboro, Maine, June 4, 1800. Their marriage occurred April 14, 1820. The former died in Maine June 16, 1861; the latter in Stillwater January 27, 1890. They had six children, and Stephen L. Cowan, the father of Mrs. Shepard, located in Minnesota in an early day and for forty years was a prominent lumberman of Stillwater.

To Mr. and Mrs. Shepard were born the following named children: Cyrus, of Mar-

shall; Eugene, who died in 1908; Ernest, who is the auditor of Lyon county; and Veda, who is a stenographer in the office of Governor Eberhart.

EDWARD P. ELMER (1888) is a farmer residing on section 3, Lucas township, about a mile from the village of Cottonwood, and is proprietor of the Cottonwood Dairy. He has under cultivation over 300 acres of land and engages extensively in dairying and stockraising, making daily deliveries of milk and cream in the village.

John Elmer, his father, came to America from Sweden in 1879, resided a number of years in Pullman, Illinois, and in 1888 came with his family to Lyon county. He purchased the Lucas farm now owned by his son and became identified with the history of that part of the county. He erected the first store building in Cottonwood and conducted one of the first blacksmith shops of the village. He conducted the shop until 1908, when he moved to Swanville, Minnesota, near which place he has an eighty-acre farm, upon which he resides. The mother of our subject, Mary (Peterson) Elmer, is deceased.

To Mr. and Mrs. John Elmer were born seven children, as follows: Helen (Mrs. R. H. Price), of Lucas township; Annie, Louise, Hulda and Clara, all deceased; Clara (Mrs. Joseph Nelson), of Cottonwood; and Edward P., of this review.

Edward P. Elmer was born in Gothland, Sweden, September 17, 1876. He accompanied his mother and the other children to America in 1882 and joined the head of the family in Pullman, Illinois, he having come to the country in 1879. Edward attended school in Pullman and came with the family to Lyon county in 1888, completing his education in the district school at the age of seventeen years. He worked on the farm for his father until twenty-two years old; then he married and began the cultivation of the farm for himself, buying the property from his father the year after his marriage.

Mr. Elmer was married at Cottonwood January 13, 1898, to Clara Jaenisch. She was born in Germany August 11, 1877. They have five children: Clarence, born June 1, 1900; Ella, born February 26, 1902; Ervin, born October 20, 1905; Alfred, born

March 25, 1908; and Dorothy, born April 25, 1910. The family are members of Silo Norwegian Lutheran Church of Cottonwood. For a number of years Mr. Elmer was treasurer of school district No. 19.

KNUTE K. MOHN (1892), chairman of the Nordland Board of Supervisors and the owner of the west half of the southwest quarter of section 3 of that precinct, has lived in Lyon county twenty years. The greater part of his life has been occupied working at trades and he has taken up farming in recent years.

Mr. Mohn was born in Eggedal, Norway, March 12, 1868, one of a family of four children. The others are Andrew, of Minneapolis; Ole, of Norway; and Annie (Mrs. Jacob Euju), of Norway. His father, Kittel Mohn, died in his native land; his mother, Groe (Knutson) Mohn, still lives in the land of the midnight sun.

Our subject attended the common schools of Norway until fifteen years old. He worked two years at the shoemaker's trade and then was a farm hand until his departure for America in 1888. In the spring of that year he crossed the sea and located in Racine county, Wisconsin. After working as a farm hand there four years, in the spring of 1892 he came to Lyon county. He worked at farm labor near Cottonwood two years and near Minneota three years.

During the war with Spain, in the spring of 1898 Mr. Mohn enlisted as a member of Company I, Fourteenth Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, was stationed with his regiment at Chickamauga Park, Georgia, and at Knoxville, Tennessee, and was mustered out at St. Paul November 18, 1898.

After his discharge from the army Mr. Mohn worked in a livery stable in Minneapolis a few months and then took up his residence in Minneota. He worked at the carpenter's trade until August, 1903, and then became the first rural mail carrier out of that Lyon county village. Ill health caused his retirement on May 15, 1905, and thereafter until June, 1909, he again worked at his trade. On the date last mentioned he moved to his eighty-acre Nordland farm, where he has since been engaged in farming. Mr. Mohn has been a member of the township board the past two years and is

now chairman of the board. He holds membership in the Odd Fellows and Yeomen lodges of Minneota.

The subject of this biography was married at Minneota July 10, 1902, to Maria Hanson. She was born at Racine, Wisconsin, April 30, 1879. Her parents, Robert and Ellen M. (Klaith) Hanson, came to Lyon county in an early day and resided in Nordland township and Minneota until their deaths. The names and dates of births of Mr. and Mrs. Mohn's four children are as follows: Godfrey Kenneth, born May 29, 1904; Mildred Katherine, born September 21, 1905; Chester Andy, born March 27, 1907; Edgar Raymond, born September 4, 1909.

OLE OLSON GORSETH (1881) is a homesteader of Lyon county and has a residence of thirty-one years to his credit. He owns and farms the southwest quarter of section 26, Shelburne township, land which he homesteaded.

Mr. Gorseth is a Norwegian by birth, and the date of his nativity was December 9, 1851. His father, Ole Paulson, died in Menominee, Wisconsin, in 1872, and his mother, Sigrid (Johnson) Paulson, died at the home of her son in Lyon county in 1885.

Until he was seventeen years old Ole Gorseth attended school in his native land, and then he worked at farm labor for a few years. In 1871 the head of the family came to the New World and the next year our subject and his mother came. The first home was at Ishpeming, Michigan, but a year later the family moved to Wisconsin, where the father died. Ole and his mother lived there two years, and then moved to Fillmore county, Minnesota. For several years Mr. Gorseth worked there as a farm hand and then, in 1881, he and his mother moved to Lyon county and he took his homestead claim.

Mr. Gorseth encountered many hardships in the early days but persevered, and prosperity has been his lot. His mother died in 1885, and since that time Mr. Gorseth has lived alone. He is a genuine lover of Lyon county. He holds membership in the Norwegian Lutheran church of Florence.

ADOLPH FURGESON (1877) is the proprietor of a blacksmith shop, wood yard and

feed mill in Minneota. His birth occurred in Freeborn county, near Albert Lea, Minnesota, November 2, 1876.

In 1877 Adolph accompanied his parents to Lyon county, his father homesteading land in Island Lake township. On that farm our subject resided twenty-five years and then moved to Minneota. He learned the blacksmith's trade under H. E. Knutson, with whom he worked three years. Then he and T. K. Thompson purchased the H. Halvorson blacksmith shop and conducted it three years. Our subject then purchased his partner's interest and has since run the business alone. Besides his blacksmith business, he conducts a wood yard and feed mill. Mr. Furgeson is a member of the Norwegian Lutheran church.

The parents of our subject are Kittle and Margaret Furgeson, natives of Norway. They came to the United States in an early day and located near Winchester, Wisconsin. They later moved to Freeborn county, Minnesota, where they resided until 1877, when they moved to Lyon county. The father died in 1902; the mother is still living. They were the parents of the following children: Peter, of Canby; Charlie, of Valley City, North Dakota; Ole, deceased; Henry, of Island Lake township; Carrie Strand, of Langmont, Colorado; Martin and Betsey Gjervold, of Nome, North Dakota; Annie Amundson, of Lyon county; Mary Haverson, of Ferndale, Washington; Adolph, of this sketch.

OLE P. SLETTE (1883) owns 200 acres of Lucas township's fertile land and farms in addition 250 acres which he rents. He resides on section 16; his own property is located on sections 22 and 28.

Mr. Slette was born in Guldbrandsdalen, Norway, June 14, 1866. His parents, Peder and Sara (Bergum) Slette, were the owners of a small farm in the old country, on which our subject grew to young manhood. He came to America in 1883 and direct to Lyon county. The first seven years were spent working at farm labor near Marshall. Then he bought the southwest quarter of section 22, Lucas township, engaged in farming on his own account, and resided on that farm until 1905. At that time he moved to his present residence. Mr. Slette is treasurer

of school district No. 74 and a member of the Norwegian Lutheran church.

Mary Odden became the wife of Mr. Slette at Cottonwood on October 7, 1893. She was born in Norway November 25, 1868, a daughter of Amund and Kari (Sather) Odden. Mr. and Mrs. Slette have two children, Alfred and Leola.

WILLIAM R. EDWARDS (1887). For a quarter of a century W. R. Edwards has resided in Tracy and during all of that time was the publisher of a newspaper. His newspaper career covers a period of thirty-two years, and for fifteen years before that he engaged in teaching. He has served as postmaster of Tracy and has held many offices of trust within the gift of his neighbors.

Mr. Edwards was born at Ravenna, the county seat of Portage county, Ohio, September 4, 1840, of Welsh descent. In 1849 he accompanied his parents to Oshkosh, Wisconsin, and there grew to young manhood. He was educated in a normal school at St. Louis and in the Bloomington, Illinois, Normal. After securing his education Mr. Edwards entered the teaching profession, with which he was identified fifteen years. He was superintendent of the Faribault, Minnesota, public schools in 1870 and 1871, and for four years was principal of the Osage, Iowa, schools.

In 1878 Mr. Edwards gave up teaching and became a journalist, which pursuit he followed until his retirement from active labors in 1910. He published the New Hampton Courier from 1878 to 1882, edited the Warren, Minnesota, Sheaf four years, was connected with a Minneapolis religious paper several years, and published the Hutchinson Leader for a time. He located in Tracy in 1887 and bought the Tracy Republican, added the Tracy Trumpet in 1900, and published the Republican-Trumpet until his retirement in 1910.

Mr. Edwards has always been an ardent Republican and has been active in the councils of his party. He has never sought office but on numerous occasions has been called to serve in offices of trust. He was a delegate to the St. Louis convention that nominated President McKinley, and when

Knute Nelson was governor of Minnesota he was a member of the state central committee. In 1888 he was appointed county superintendent of schools to fill a vacancy and at the next election was chosen to a full term. For ten years Mr. Edwards was secretary of the Tracy District Fair Association, was at one time president of the Tracy Board of Trade, and for ten years was secretary of the Tracy Board of Education.

Mr. Edwards is a Presbyterian in religious faith and is an elder of the Tracy church. Fraternally he is associated with the Masonic, Odd Fellows and Modern Woodmen lodges.

Richard and Anne (Jones) Edwards, the parents of our subject, were born and married in Wales. Upon their arrival to America they settled in Ohio and in 1849 made settlement in Oshkosh, Wisconsin, where both died. There were nine children in the family, of whom the only ones living are William R. Edwards and Mrs. Margaret Gittings, of Oshkosh. One child of the family, Richard Edwards, LL. D., D. D., born in 1822, had a national reputation as an educator and lecturer. The deceased children of the family were Richard, David, Elizabeth, Isaac, Mary, John and Hugh.

William R. Edwards and Josie Bigelow were married at Charles City, Iowa, July 19, 1870. Mrs. Edwards is the daughter of Chauncey and Laura (Curtis) Bigelow, old New York State settlers, and she was born in Cattaraugus county of the Empire State. Seven children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. W. R. Edwards, of whom the following named four are living: Josephine, the wife of George A. Pearce, Duluth; Vera L., the wife of Dr. Don Casselman, Tracy; Hazel, who resides at home; and Maurine, a graduate of the Mankato Normal School and a school teacher.

IVER A. OUSMAN (1886) is a farmer and land owner of Nordland township who has lived in Lyon county since he was a child. Iceland is his native land and he was born November 26, 1880. Steffen Ousman, his father, died in 1907, and Rosa (Christenson) Ousman, his mother, lives in Minneota.

The family emigrated from the north-

land in 1886 and came to Lyon county. After residing a few years in Westerheim township, they took up their residence in Nordland, on the farm now owned by the son. Iver attended the district school until seventeen years old and worked for his father until he reached his majority. Then he purchased the east half of the northeast quarter of section 9 and commenced farming for himself. In 1909 he purchased the home place, the north half of the southeast quarter of section 4, and makes his home there. Besides general farming, Mr. Ousman raises cattle, horses, sheep and hogs. He is a member of St. Edward's Catholic Church of Minneota and of the Yeomen lodge of that village.

Mr. Ousman was married at Minneota June 24, 1909, to Catherine G. Donnelly. She was born in Yellow Medicine county March 20, 1888, a daughter of Charles and Mary Donnelly, now residents of Nordland township. Mrs. Ousman died February 1, 1912. Two children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Ousman, as follows: Catherine Rose, born June 21, 1910, and Magdeline, born January 8, 1912.

Iver Ousman is one of a family of thirteen children, of whom five are living. His brothers and sisters are Arne, of Seattle; Sadie (Mrs. Maurice Hennessy) and John, of Two Harbors, Minnesota; and Johanna, of Minneota.

SAMUEL J. FORBES (1880) is cashier of the Marshall State Bank and has spent the greater part of his life in Lyon county. He is a native of Wingham, Ontario, Canada, and was born May 4, 1870. He accompanied his parents to Lyon county in 1880 and during the next ten years lived on the home farm, the southwest quarter of section 14, Fairview township, a few miles north of Marshall.

Mr. Forbes was graduated from the Marshall High School and thereafter for several years clerked in Marshall stores. He then took a position as traveling collector for the Milwaukee Harvester Company and the Champion Machine Company and in 1900 located in Gary, South Dakota, and engaged in the banking business. One year later he became associated with the First National Bank of Canby and was

cashier of that institution until 1909. In the year last mentioned Mr. Forbes returned to Marshall and in partnership with Spurgeon Odell and J. A. McNiven founded the Marshall State Bank. He has since been cashier of the bank. Fraternally, Mr. Forbes is affiliated with the Masonic, Odd Fellows, Knights of Pythias, Woodmen and Workmen lodges.

In the city of Marshall, on June 21, 1896, occurred the marriage of Mr. Forbes to Sonora M. Simons, a native of Platteville, Wisconsin. Her parents, Richard and Anna Simons, were born in Wales and settled in Lyon county in 1881. Mr. and Mrs. Forbes have two children, Vincent L. and Eleanor E.

The parents of the subject of this review were Alexander and Margaret (Dundas) Forbes, who were born in Canada and died in Marshall. They were parents of thirteen children, of whom the ten following are living: John, of Ontario, Canada; Rev. Robert, of Philadelphia; Isaac, of Amiret township; William, of Fairview township; Joseph G., an attorney of Wahpeton, North Dakota; Eleanor (Mrs. Isaac Clendenning), of Marshall; Mabel (Mrs. John Taylor), of Marquam, Oregon; Elizabeth (Mrs. James Springsteen), of Blenheim, Ontario; and Mary (Mrs. John Lamony), of Toronto.

ALBERT L. BLANCHETTE (1886) has been engaged in farming the one farm in Vallers township for the last twenty-six years. His farm is the southwest quarter and the west half of the southeast quarter of section 31, a good farm and improved with substantial buildings. He has made the farm what it is, for when he came it was raw prairie land without a building on it.

Mr. Blanchette is of French descent and was born in Kankakee county, Illinois, February 27, 1868. Eli and Bessauger (Boulez) Blanchette, his parents, were born in Canada and settled in Illinois in the fifties. Albert received a district school education and lived in his native county until eighteen years of age. He came to Lyon county in 1886 and located on his present farm, which his father had bought three years before. Mr. Blanchette is a

member of the Catholic church and of the Modern Woodmen lodge.

In his native county, on February 1, 1888, Mr. Blanchette was united in marriage to Selina Bouchard. She was born in the city of Chicago June 11, 1867, and is the daughter of Godfrey and Esther (Desleaurier) Bouchard, natives of Canada. Mr. and Mrs. Blanchette have been blessed with children, being the parents of the following named fourteen: George J., Louise, Leah, Agnes, Annie, Harry, Archie, Arbu, Neldeah, Blanche, Eli, Eba, Ella and Elmer.

HALVOR K. KVANBECK (1877) in partnership with his brother Jacob, farms the west half of section 14, Eidsvold township. He owns an eighty-acre farm in Burton township, Yellow Medicine county, and for several years he has been engaged in farming that land.

His father is Knute Kvanbeck, who was born in Norway April 5, 1853. The parent came to the United States in 1873, lived one summer in Minneapolis, and then took up his residence in Freeborn county, Minnesota. He was married in Iowa in 1876 to Rosa Halvorson, the mother of our subject. She was born in Norway and came to America when four years of age. Knute Kvanbeck came to Lyon county in 1876 and took as a homestead claim the northwest quarter of section 14, Eidsvold township, where he has ever since lived. The first home was a little log cabin, and Mr. Kvanbeck has made all the improvements on the place, now owning also the southwest quarter of section 14. Knute Kvanbeck has been prominent in the affairs of his township. For the past eighteen years he has been township clerk and he has been a member of the school board for a number of years.

There are four sons and two daughters in the family, as follows: Helen (Mrs. P. J. Thorson), of Swede Prairie township, Yellow Medicine county; Sven (married to Clara Hall), a carpenter of Kansas City; Jacob, who is one of the partners in the management of the home farm; Halvor K., of this sketch; Nellie (Mrs. Rasmus Anderson), of Eidsvold township; and Albert, of Minneota.

Halvor Kvanbeck was born in Lyon county and has always made his home here. The date of his birth was March 16, 1877, and the place was two miles southeast of Minneota. He is not married and has always resided at home. Besides farming his own land in Yellow Medicine county, he assisted with the work on his father's farm, and in the spring of 1912 he and his brother rented the half section owned by their father and are now engaged in its management.

HYPPOLIT MAERTENS (1883) since August 10, 1911, has held the position as buyer for the Van Dusen Elevator Company at Ghent. Previous to that time Mr. Maertens for three years held a similar position with the Mutual Elevator Company at Taunton.

Mr. Maertens claims Belgium for his native land and is a son of Henry and Annie (De Ruee) Maertens. Hyppolit was born September 25, 1875, and when only eight years old the family came to America, the father buying land in Grandview township, Lyon county. His father returned to Belgium in 1895, where he died four years ago. The mother died while the family were on the Grandview farm.

Hyppolit attended the Sisters' School two years in Belgium, and after coming to Lyon county he received a good education in the country school in Grandview. At the age of nineteen years he took up farming in Grandview and continued in that pursuit until 1907, when he returned to Belgium for a sojourn of six months. Returning to Lyon county, he was given the position with the elevator people at Taunton.

The marriage of Hyppolit Maertens and Marie De Langhe occurred November 6, 1907, at Minneota. Mrs. Maertens is a native of Belgium and she and her husband are members of the Catholic church. They are the parents of three children, Edward, Henry and Margaret.

GEORGE B. GIFFORD (1879), a farmer of Custer township, was born in Jefferson county, New York, November 3, 1862, and is a son of Willard W. and Jane L.

(Spink) Gifford, both natives of New York State. His mother died when George was ten years of age.

George was brought up in his native state and there received his schooling. At the age of seventeen he accompanied his father and stepmother to Lyon county, where the father filed on a homestead in Custer township, the land which our subject now owns. Here the young man grew to manhood and assisted his father with the farm work until the elder Gifford's death in 1892, since which time George has had charge of the place. In addition to the old homestead on the northeast quarter of section 18, Mr. Gifford owns 120 acres on section 17 of the same township. He raises considerable stock and has been farming successfully. Mr. Gifford owns shares in the creamery company of Balaton and is a director of the company. He is serving as treasurer of school district No. 52.

March 30, 1887, Mr. Gifford was married to Ruth Hughes, the ceremony being performed in Custer township. Mrs. Gifford was born in Blue Earth county, Minnesota, May 25, 1868, and is a daughter of Richard and Ann (Thomas) Hughes, natives of Wales and Maryland, respectively. Mrs. Hughes died in 1894 and her husband is still living at the age of seventy-two years. The following children were born to Mr. and Mrs. George Gifford: Lorenta R., born December 16, 1888; Elvridge, born April 23, 1890; Mark, born December 4, 1891; Willard, born March 5, 1894; Anna, born August 1, 1897; Lydia, born June 15, 1902; and Celia, born February 19, 1905. Of the above children, Lorenta and Elvridge are married; the others are at home. Mr. Gifford is a member of the A. O. U. W. lodge.

A. ROSSLAND (1899) is the manager of the Cottonwood Hardware Company. He was born in the land of the midnight sun October 12, 1873. His parents died in the old country. They were Anders and Martha (Cleveland) Rossland and were the parents of four children: Andrew, of this sketch; Signey Tvedteras, and Maria Rongved, of Norway; and Anna Rossland, of Cottonwood.

Our subject obtained his education in the land of his birth, where he resided until nineteen years of age. Then he came to the United States and settled at Maynard, Minnesota, where he worked as second man in a grain elevator in the summer months; in the winter months he attended the Norwegian College at Madison. Mr. Rossland continued this two years, when he secured employment with the Northwestern Elevator Company. He worked for the latter company at Sherman, South Dakota, four years and at Corson, South Dakota, one year.

In 1899 Mr. Rossland came to Lyon county and located at Cottonwood, where he was employed by the above named grain company six years. He resigned in 1905 and was one of the organizers of the Cottonwood Hardware Company, which was established and incorporated in January, 1905. He has been treasurer and manager of the company since its organization.

The Cottonwood Hardware Company is the outgrowth of a company of the same name that was established several years ago by Thomas McKinley. He sold to Arneson & Anderson, who conducted it until 1905, when it was reorganized and incorporated. It is capitalized for \$20,000. The following are officers of the company: President, A. E. Anderson; vice president, O. A. Anderson; secretary, O. C. Hovdesven; treasurer and manager, A. Rossland. The company handles hardware and implements. It owns the brick block in which the business is located, which was erected in 1904. The store and stock are a credit to the village of Cottonwood and is the largest and best stock carried by any little store in the county.

Mr. Rossland was a member of the Village Council one term and was assessor two years.

At Elk Point, South Dakota, July 11, 1901, occurred the marriage of Mr. Rossland to Mamie Holden, a native of Sioux City, Iowa. They are the parents of four children: Hazel Agnes Margaret, Arden Oliver, Dagny Marie and Clayton Holden.

CHRISTIAN E. ETRHEIM (1895) is a member of the Board of County Commissioners, representing the third district, and

a prominent farmer of Shelburne township. He owns the east half of section 36 and has one of the best improved farms of the county. He has lived in many parts of the country and engaged in many occupations, but he has found that Lyon county suits him better than any place he has found and he has prospered exceedingly.

By birth Mr. Etrheim is a Norwegian, having been born near Odda, Hardanger, on May 26, 1864. Both his parents are deceased, his father, Eilef D. Etrheim, having died in 1901, and his mother, Syneva (Tyssedal) Etrheim, having passed away in 1872. The boyhood days of our subject were passed in the land of his nativity. He received a good education in the common schools and high school, having been graduated from the Lofthus High School in 1881.

After his graduation Mr. Etrheim worked on his father's farm one year and then came to America, arriving April 11, 1882. For six years he worked at farm labor and other occupations in Lee county, Illinois, and then took up his residence at Ellsworth, Iowa. During the next few years he was employed in various capacities. For five months he worked as a farm hand, for two months canvassed in Hamilton county for the Fort Dodge Nursery Company, and during one season sold farm implements for W. W. Woods, of Ellsworth.

We next find our subject in Chicago, where he worked one winter for the McCormick Harvester Company. For one year he traveled over Iowa as a salesman for the Warder, Bushnell & Glesner Company, makers of the Champion binders and mowers. In the fall of 1890 Mr. Etrheim returned to Ellsworth and in partnership with Ole Cragwick purchased the W. W. Woods machinery business. After one year he sold his interest to Nels Sexe and then took a six months' course in a business college at Des Moines, Iowa. Mr. Etrheim again took a position with the Warder, Bushnell & Glesner Company and for four years traveled in Iowa and Minnesota. During that period he spent one winter in the repair department in Chicago and one winter in the collection department in the office.

Mr. Etrheim turned farmer in the spring



THE ETRHEIM FARM, SHELBURNE TOWNSHIP



CHRISTIAN E. ETRHEIM  
Proprietor Etrheim Farm and a County  
Commissioner.



MRS. CHRISTIAN E. ETRHEIM



of 1895. Ten years before that date he and his brother Henry had purchased the northeast quarter of section 36, Shelburne township, and to that place our subject moved after his marriage. He has ever since resided on the farm and has added to his holdings.

For four years Mr. Etrheim was a director of the Balaton Farmers Co-operative Company and he is still one of the stockholders. He has been a county commissioner for the past four years and has held a number of local offices, including clerk of school district No. 68 for six years and justice of the peace.

Mr. Etrheim was married in Chicago March 7, 1895, to Celia T. Prestegaard. She was born in Odda, Hardanger, Norway, February 25, 1862, a daughter of Torgels K. and Britta (Hildal) Prestegaard. The former lives in Norway; the latter died in 1874. To Mr. and Mrs. Etrheim was born one child, Eilif, born February 20, 1896, and died March 1, 1896.

WILLIAM F. MULLANEY (1873), chief engineer of the Marshall Milling Company's plant, has lived in Lyon county since he was a baby one and one-half years old. He was born in Nicollet county, Minnesota, September 29, 1871.

The parents, Peter and Mary (Powers) Mullaney, were born in Ireland and came to America when children. They were married in Peoria, Illinois, and settled in Nicollet county in the early sixties. They took a homestead claim in Lynd township, Lyon county in 1873 and resided on the farm until 1907. They have since lived retired lives in Marshall. In the family are six children: Annie (Mrs. John McColer), of Tracy; Richard, who died in 1891; William F., of this biography; Alphonsus, of Minneapolis; Katie (Mrs. John Brennan), of Balaton; Leo, of San Francisco; and Charles, who lives at Fort Warden, Washington, and is a first sergeant of Company No. 125 of the United States Coast Artillery.

William Mullaney accompanied the family to Lyon county in June, 1873, and grew up on his father's homestead, the northwest quarter of section 14, Lynd township. As a boy he worked on the farm and operated threshing machines, getting his first experi-

ence in mechanics. In 1892 he moved to Marshall and took a position as fireman with the Sleepy Eye Milling Company, now the Marshall Milling Company, and has been connected with that firm's mill ever since.

He was soon made assistant engineer, the first six months of that service being given without pay, and in 1896 he was promoted to chief engineer. In 1904, when the company built the present mill—one of the largest in the southwestern part of Minnesota and one of the finest in the state—Mr. Mullaney superintended the installing of the mammoth 1000 horse-power engine of the cross-compound type, and he has since superintended the putting in of the other modern appliances. Mr. Mullaney is recognized as one of the best engineers and mechanical experts in this part of Minnesota.

During the past three years Mr. Mullaney has served as a member of the City Council, representing the second ward, and he is one of the valued members of the city's law-making body. He holds membership in the Modern Woodmen and Workmen lodges and is one of the managers of each order.

The marriage of Mr. Mullaney to Susie Lee was solemnized at Marshall April 27, 1897. Mrs. Mullaney is a native of Illinois and a daughter of the late Richard Lee, a pioneer of Lyon county. Five children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Mullaney, named as follows: Irene, Margaret, Gladys, Carleton and Verna.

OLE O. DOVRE (1879) is a farmer and land owner of Eidsvold township. He owns the southeast quarter and the south half of the southwest quarter of section 33, a few miles southwest of Minneota. In the summer of 1911 he erected a house on the farm that cost \$5000. It is modern in every respect and is one of Lyon county's fine farm homes.

Ole O. Dovre is a Norwegian by birth and first saw the light of day May 15, 1859. His father, O. N. Dovre, died in the old country in 1876, and his mother, Ragnhild (Thorson) Dovre, passed away there in 1910. After securing an education, Ole Dovre came to America, in the spring of 1877. He located at Northfield, Minnesota, and worked at the printer's trade there two years.

In the summer of 1879 Mr. Dovre first came to Lyon county. He spent eighteen months visiting and working and then went to Brown county, Kansas, where he resided one and one-half years. Returning to Northfield, he had his residence there until 1892, engaged in horse training and later in the mercantile business. Mr. Dovre then spent a year traveling through the South and West, and in the spring of 1894 he took up his permanent residence in Lyon county. He lived in Minneota and vicinity two years and in 1895 bought his present farm.

Our subject has stock in and for a number of years was a director of the Farmers Elevator Company of Minneota. He has been a director of school district No. 55 four years and he is a member of the Norwegian Lutheran church of Minneota.

The marriage of Mr. Dovre to Inga Rye occurred at Watertown, South Dakota, August 7, 1896. His wife was born in Norway November 22, 1865, and is a daughter of Esten and Marit (Ranum) Rye, early settlers of and still residents of Nordland township. Mr. and Mrs. Dovre have the following children, all of whom reside at home: Knute, Nels Edwin, Ragnhild Marie, Irene Sophia, Hilda, Ruth Amelia, Odin Esten, Harold.

CORNELIUS HUISENFELDT (1893) is a farmer and land owner of Lynd township. He is a native of Wisconsin and was born November 1, 1853, at Depere. He is a son of Stephen and Wilhelmina Huisenfeldt, natives of Holland, who came to America in an early day and located in Wisconsin. It was there that our subject received his education and grew to manhood. He worked for his father until 1877 and then worked at the carpenter's trade and at the house moving business for several years. In 1880 he started in the business for himself, having in his employ from three to seven men. He worked at this trade in Wisconsin and in Lyon county for over thirty years.

In 1892 Mr. Huisenfeldt purchased the southwest quarter of section 4, Lynd township, and the following year moved with his family to the place. He has purchased more land since then and is now the owner of four hundred acres of fine land.

The subject of this review is a member of the Catholic church. He was a member of the Township Board of Supervisors in Brown county, Wisconsin, for several years. He is now treasurer of school district No. 17 and was road master for two years in Lynd township. He is a stockholder in the Farmers Elevator Company at Ghent and a stockholder in the Lyon County Agricultural Association. He engages extensively in stock raising, specializing on Shorthorn cattle, Poland China hogs, Percheron horses and Barred Plymouth Rock chickens.

On May 15, 1877, Mr. Huisenfeldt was united in marriage to Ardena Van DeVoort, a daughter of Arnold and Mary (Barten) Van DeVoort. Mrs. Huisenfeldt is a native of Wisconsin and was born March 13, 1858. They are the parents of the following named children: Arnold, born June 12, 1878; John, born September 3, 1880; Stephen, born November 27, 1882; Minnie, born October 8, 1888; Martin, born October 19, 1892; Joseph, born May 23, 1895; Annie, born October 18, 1897; George, born December 13, 1900. Another child died when two and one-half years old.

MICHAEL B. FORD (1880), Sodus township farmer, is a native of Waseca county, Minnesota, where he was born March 25, 1871. His parents are Bernard and Catherine (Haney) Ford, the former a native of Ireland and the latter of Canada. They settled in Waseca county in an early day.

When nine years of age our subject accompanied his parents to Lyon county and his father purchased land in Sodus township, the southwest quarter of section 25. There Michael received his schooling and grew to manhood, and he has resided on the home farm continuously since 1880. In 1900 he purchased the home farm from his mother and has since conducted it. Our subject is clerk of school district No. 83. He is a member of the Catholic church and the Catholic Order of Foresters lodge. He is unmarried.

BERNARD F. CLAEYS (1884) is one of the most prosperous farmers of Grandview township. He is the owner of 880 acres of fine land and for the past twelve years has also been operating a half section belonging

to his brother-in-law, Mr. De Sutter, who returned to Belgium to live in 1900.

The subject of this sketch was born in Belgium September 18, 1859, and is a son of Louis and Naveria (Vankersschaver) Claeys. When the boy was two years of age his father died. The lad grew up on the home farm and was well educated in the schools of his native land, having the opportunity of attending college two years. In 1884 Bernard and his mother came to America, and young Claeys bought land in Grandview township, Lyon county. There he has since lived and farmed. He has acquired considerable farm land and has prospered. His mother lived with him and his brother fourteen years on the Lyon county farm and then returned to her native land, where she died in 1904.

Mr. Claeys is a stockholder and director of the Farmers-Elevator Company of Ghent and was one of its organizers. He has served the past three years as treasurer of Grandview township and was a member of the Grandview Township Board of Supervisors nine years, seven years of the time being chairman. In the winter of 1903-04 Mr. Claeys enjoyed a four months' trip to the Fatherland, and with that exception he has been a continuous resident of his Grandview place since coming to the county.

On September 9, 1890, Bernard Claeys was united in marriage to Ida Maertens, a native of Belgium. She was born March 30, 1868, and is a daughter of Henry and Anna (De-Ruwe) Maertens, now dead. Her parents located in Grandview township in 1883, and there the mother died. The father returned to Belgium soon after and made his home there until his death. Mr. and Mrs. Bernard Claeys are the parents of the following children: Louis, Anna (deceased), Andrew, Mary, Emmerence, Irma, Idalie, Margaret, Bernard (deceased), Bernadette, Eugenia, Ida and Alice. Anna and Andrew were twins. The children reside at home with their parents.

Mr. Claeys is a member of the Catholic church of Ghent and was formerly one of the trustees. He is also a member of the Catholic Order of Foresters and has held various offices in the local organization.

H. R. SEARLES (1879), proprietor of a livery and sale stable and a dealer in agri-

cultural implements of Tracy, is one of the early residents of the county, having lived here a third of a century. He is a native of Steuben county, New York, and was born November 29, 1863.

In his native county our subject lived until 1879; then he accompanied his parents to Lyon county. The father bought a half section of railroad land in Rock Lake township, and on that farm H. R. Searles lived until he was twenty-three years of age. Then he started out in life for himself. He worked in the woods in the north part of the state one winter and then returned and settled at Balaton. In that village he engaged in teaming and operated a dray line five years; then he bought a livery barn and conducted it five years.

Locating in Tracy at the end of that time, Mr. Searles rented a barn from Mr. Slover and when it was destroyed by fire a year and a half later he bought the lots upon which it had stood and erected a barn of his own. Later he sold out and erected a larger livery stable on the corner opposite Webb's store, which he conducted until it was destroyed by fire in March, 1910. Since that calamity Mr. Searles has engaged in the livery business in his own property on Third Street.

Besides the business enterprise mentioned Mr. Searles deals extensively in farming implements, carrying a large line of machinery, engines, wagons, automobiles, etc. He is one of the stockholders of the Tracy Automobile Company and owns two Lyon county farms. He served as alderman from the second ward for a number of years and is a member of the Masonic lodge.

Mr. Searles was married at Balaton June 6, 1895, to Lucy A. Hamm. She is a daughter of William Hamm, a Lyon county homesteader. Mr. and Mrs. Searles have one child, Gertrude.

The parents of our subject are J. W. and Kate (Bauter) Searles, who now reside at Balaton, aged eighty-one and eighty years, respectively. They came from New York State, where they were born, to Lyon county in 1879, and before retiring from active life, farmed in Rock Lake township. To them were born eight children, of whom seven are living. Their children are Rev. William Searles, of New York; J. D. Searles, of Minneapolis; Frank M. Searles, of New Brighton, Minnesota; Fred W. Searles, of Minneapolis; Mrs. Carrie Wheeler, of Okla-

homa City, Oklahoma; Mrs. J. H. Carlaw, of Balaton. Another son, Marshall W., died in 1905.

FRED S. BARTLETT (1879) is a contractor of Balaton. He has been a resident of Lyon county for thirty-three years, having come here with his parents in the spring of 1879. He was born in Pennsylvania January 28, 1877, a son of E. D. Bartlett, now a resident of Balaton. The other members of that family are Rose, Minnie, Ella, Sadie and Lue.

Our subject attended school in Balaton, and, after completing his course, entered the employ of his father and learned the trade. When twenty-one years of age he started out for himself. He has put up the principal buildings in the village of Balaton, including the First National Bank, the Eng Block, the German church, Swedish church, and the Lake Avenue Hotel. He also erected the new building on the county poor farm and other buildings throughout the county. Mr. Bartlett is a member of the M. W. A. lodge and the Village Council.

Mr. Bartlett was married in Balaton December 26, 1900, to Anna Hall, a native of Illinois. Mr. and Mrs. Bartlett are the parents of two children, Rachael and Maud.

JULIUS TEERLINCK (1892) came to the United States from Belgium, and when he settled in Fairview township in 1892 he was a poor man. He spent the first six years of his residence in the county working on farms near Ghent; then he rented the northeast quarter of section 18, Fairview township, and has been a resident on the place ever since. In 1902 he bought the place and has recently acquired additional land, making him the owner of 260 acres. Hard work and perseverance have brought Mr. Teerlinck success and he is considered one of the substantial farmers of the township and the proprietor of one of its best farms. He has had great success in the raising of corn, and fattens hogs and cattle for market.

Our subject is the son of Jacob and Barbara (Parton) Teerlinck and is one of four children. His father died many years ago and his mother died nine years ago at the age of seventy-three years. Julius is the only child living in America, the other children, Charlie, Sylvia and Natilie, being

residents of Belgium. Our subject was born in Belgium January 20, 1857. He was educated in the Fatherland and then worked as a farm hand until coming to America in 1892.

On May 3, 1881, Mr. Teerlinck was married to Barbara De Baker. Her mother, Mary Vermech, and two sisters, Leona and Valentine, live in Ghent, and a brother, Camille De Baker, is a farmer of Fairview township. Two other sisters, Natilie and Matilda, live in Belgium. To Mr. and Mrs. Teerlinck has been born one son, Frank. He is a young man and gives his father valuable assistance on the farm. The subject of this sketch is a member of the Catholic church.

PALMER O. FRENCH (1892), owner of several lots, two residence properties, a store building and hall in Minneota, is a retired farmer and business man who is enjoying years of quiet after an active and successful business life. He is a stockholder and for two years was secretary of the Farmers & Merchants Supply Company of Minneota. He has held the office of justice of the peace more than twenty years and was on the Village Council four years, three years of that period as president. Mr. French is a member of the Baptist church, of which he has been treasurer ten years. A charter member of the Masonic and Odd Fellows lodges of Minneota, he is treasurer of the former and district deputy of the latter. D. F. Markham Post, G. A. R., of Marshall numbers Mr. French among its members.

Our subject first saw the light of day in Bennington, New York, October 6, 1837. His parents, Burton and Mary (Fargo) French, are both dead. Palmer was well educated, attending graded and high school and the Genesee and Wyoming Seminary at Alexander, New York, from which he was graduated at the age of twenty-three years. He then went two years to Hillsdale College in Michigan, after which he taught school at Litchfield, Michigan, one year.

In 1864 Mr. French enlisted in the Second New York Mounted Rifles and served until the war closed, taking part in the siege of Petersburg, capture of the Weldon railroad, etc.

Returning North at the close of the war, Mr. French spent some time at his old home and in Litchfield, Michigan, and in 1867 he engaged in the retail grocery business in

Chicago, being so employed the next two years. In 1870 at Austin, Minnesota, Mr. French went into the wholesale and retail implement business and for four years had the state agency for the Hollingsworth hay-rake and the Southwestern Minnesota agency for the Marsh harvester, the first machine of its kind on the market. Mr. French was on the Village Council and was mayor of Austin one year. He was also secretary of the Board of Trade. From the spring of 1877 until that fall our subject conducted the first stage line between Pierre and Deadwood, in the Black Hills district of South Dakota.

Returning to Minnesota Mr. French took a tree claim and homestead in Yellow Medicine county and in the spring of 1878 broke up part of the land. The township of Burton was named for his father, and Palmer French was chairman of the Board of Supervisors. In 1879 Mr. French moved his family from Austin and they made their home on the Yellow Medicine farm until 1892, when they moved to Minneota. From that time until he retired in 1897, Mr. French was engaged in the machinery and pump business.

At Litchfield, Michigan, January 11, 1866, Palmer O. French married Nancy A. Wood, a native of that state. To this union was born one child, who died in infancy. Mrs. French died in 1868. Mr. French was married a second time, January 4, 1870, to Rhoda W. Gillett, of Bennington, New York.

NELS NELSON (1886), of Coon Creek township, is a native of Jemtland, Sweden, where he was born December 31, 1858. He is a son of Nels and Mollin (Nelson) Erickson, the former being deceased and the latter residing in Sweden. Our subject received his schooling in the land of his birth, where he resided until twenty-eight years of age and then came to the United States. The first fifteen years of his life were spent in school, and from the age of fifteen until twenty-eight he worked out at farm labor.

In 1886 Mr. Nelson came to America, locating at Balaton, where he was employed for a year in a gravel pit. He then went to the northern part of Wisconsin, where he worked in a railroad camp four years. Then he returned to his old home in Sweden and remained a year. Returning again to America, he took up his residence in

Lyon county, buying the land in Coon Creek township upon which he still lives. He has a very fine home. In addition to general farming, he engages in stock raising, such as Shorthorn cattle, Duroc-Jersey hogs and Langshang chickens. Mr. Nelson is a member of the Masonic and Modern Woodmen lodges and has been treasurer of school district No. 92 five years. He is a stockholder of the Farmers Mutual Telephone Company.

In 1892 Mr. Nelson was united in marriage to Katherine Lindstrom, a daughter of Henry Lindstrom. She was born in 1865 in Jemtland, Sweden. Mr. and Mrs. Nelson are the parents of the following children: Nels, born August 23, 1892; Augusta, born January 6, 1894; Oscar, born December 1, 1895; Ellen, born December 17, 1898; Mary, born February 23, 1901; Eva, born March 9, 1903; Albert, born November 18, 1905. All the children except Augusta reside at home. Augusta is a member of the Royal Neighbors lodge, Nels of the M. W. A. lodge, and Mrs. Nelson is a member of the Degree of Honor.

Mr. Nelson owns 280 acres of fine land in Coon Creek township and is a successful farmer and stock raiser. He has two brothers and three sisters, as follows: Erick, of Pine county, Minnesota; Olaf, Mary, Ingeborg and Martha, all residing in Jemtland, Sweden. Mrs. Nelson has one sister, Mrs. Mathias Johnson, of Sweden.

ANTON HEYMANS (1892) is one of the progressive men of Nordland township, a successful farmer and a large holder of Lyon county real estate. He has devoted many years to business life and only recently has he engaged in farming.

In Weert, Holland, Anton Heymans was born October 22, 1867. He is the only one of a family of eight children residing in America, the others, Louis, Frank, Johanna (deceased), Delphine, Anna, Josephine and Dena, being in their native land. The parents of this family, Martin and Mary (Verhagen) Heymans, died in Holland.

Anton received a good education in his native country, attending the common schools and a Catholic college until twenty-one years old, studying the Latin, Greek, French, German and Flemish languages. Aft-

er his school days he worked two years in a wholesale house and then went to Germany and was there employed eighteen months.

In 1892 our subject came to the New World and direct to Lyon county, his worldly possessions at that time consisting of sixty dollars. For one year he worked on a farm near Ghent and then bought land near Slayton, Murray county, and farmed three years. He was in the livery business in Avoca three years and in the real estate business in the same town one year; then he disposed of his interests in Murray county and in 1900 again became a resident of Lyon county. At Taunton he was in the real estate business eight years and at Minneota two years.

Mr. Heymans purchased the farm he now operates in Nordland in August, 1911, and began farming. The home farm consists of 240 acres on section 3, a short distance from Minneota, and he also owns 640 acres north of Minneota, making him the possessor of 880 acres of Lyon and Yellow Medicine county lands. He is also the owner of two quarter sections in North Dakota. As in his other business ventures, Mr. Heymans has been successful in his farming operations. He devotes a great deal of time to stock raising, specializing on Hereford cattle and Poland China hogs.

Mr. Heymans has taken a leading part in local affairs since coming to Lyon county. For several years he was treasurer of Taunton and he also served as a director of the Taunton school district two years. He is a former postmaster of Taunton and a former United States mail carrier. He is a member of the Catholic church of Minneota, of the M. W. A. lodge of the same village, and of the Knights of Columbus of Marshall.

Antoinette Princen, who was born in Weert, Holland, May 13, 1875, was married to Mr. Heymans at Ghent on July 17, 1895. Her parents are Hubert and Philomena (Vyggen) Princen. They were among the earliest of the Catholic colonists to locate in the vicinity of Ghent and lived there until two years ago, when they returned to the old country, where they now have their home. The following named six children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Heymans and reside at home: Alex, Hubert, Martin, Eugene, Joseph and Marie.

FRED M. HEALY (1879), proprietor of a book, stationery and sporting goods store in Marshall, has resided in that city for the past thirty-three years and is one of the oldest business men of the city. He has built up a successful business and has the largest store of the kind in Southwestern Minnesota.

Mr. Healy was born in Kendall county, Illinois, July 12, 1858. When he was ten years of age he moved to Faribault, Minnesota, and there grew to manhood and was educated. When he was seventeen he spent one year as a member of a bridge building crew at Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, but during most of the time of his residence in Faribault he was employed as a clerk in stores.

In 1879 Mr. Healy located in Marshall, which has ever since been his home. For three years he clerked in the grocery store of his brother, E. L. Healy, and in 1883 started a store of his own, the beginning of his present business. In October, 1909, Mr. Healy admitted his son, Charles, to partnership and the firm is now styled Healy & Son. Our subject served as mayor of Marshall one term and was city recorder two terms.

In the city of Marshall, on February 3, 1887, occurred the marriage of Mr. Healy to Caroline Strathers, who was born in Rice county, Minnesota, near Faribault. They have one child, Charles E.

The father of our subject is Lucius Healy, who was born in Massachusetts and now resides at Red Lake, Minnesota. Our subject's mother, Amelia (Boomer) Healy, died when Fred was only two years of age. There were four children in this family: E. L., of Red Lake, Minnesota; Emma, Charles and Fred M. Emma and Charles are deceased.

HENRY CHRISTENSON (1883) is the owner of a fine, well-improved 200 acre farm on section 33, Lucas township, and has one of the nicest homes in the precinct. He engages in stock raising and is one of the prosperous farmers of the vicinity.

Henry Christenson was born near Copenhagen, Denmark, December 5, 1866, and is a son of Mr. and Mrs. Christian Jenson. Henry lived in Denmark until sixteen years of age and during that time received his schooling. It was in the spring of 1883 that the boy came alone to America, and for the

first two years he lived at Marshall and was employed at various kinds of labor. J. W. Pike then hired the boy to work on his farm in Lake Marshall township, and there Henry spent three years. He left Mr. Pike's employ to engage in farming for himself in Stanley township.

The subject of this sketch farmed in Stanley township four years. During that time his parents came over from the Fatherland, and they made their home with their son until they moved to Marshall, where they lived until their deaths. After his four years' residence on the Stanley farm, Henry bought the farm in Lucas township where he has since lived. He is a member of the Lucas township board and for the past seven years has been treasurer of school district No. 41.

Henry Christenson was married at Marshall July 1, 1892, to Josephine Engebretson, a native of Fillmore county. They have three children: Mabel, born July 20, 1895; Clarence, born January 3, 1898; and Alvin, born July 21, 1905. Mrs. Christenson was born January 23, 1872. The family are members of the Presbyterian church of Cottonwood, of which Mr. Christenson was for a number of years a trustee. Fraternally he is allied with the Modern Woodmen lodge.

HANS ANDERSEN (1889) is a prosperous farmer residing in Coon Creek township. He is a native of Denmark and was born October 11, 1858, a son of Anders and Kirsten (Adams) Sorensen. Hans received his schooling and grew to manhood in the land of his birth, where he resided with his parents until 1882, when he came to this country.

His first residence in America was in Grundy county, Iowa, where he worked as a farm hand four years and rented land three years. In 1889 he came to Lyon county and purchased the southwest quarter of section 28, Coon Creek township, which he still owns and operates. Since buying this farm, however, he spent four years in Tyler. He has a well improved farm and a fine residence in Tyler. Mr. Andersen also raises considerable stock. He is a shareholder of the Farmers Elevator Company of Russell and of the Tyler Lumber Company of Tyler, Minnesota. He is treas-

urer of Coon Creek township and a member of the Danish Lutheran church of Tyler.

Mr. Andersen was married in Coon Creek township December 4, 1891, to Annie K. Nelson, a native of Denmark and a daughter of Nels and Johannah (Bertelsen) Mortensen. Mrs. Andersen was born March 15, 1860. They have two children: Eiler C., born December 6, 1898, and Anton S., born July 29, 1903.

T. H. WEBB (1884) is the proprietor of an exclusive grocery store at Tracy and has resided in Lyon county twenty-eight years. He was born at North Bend, Wisconsin, June 12, 1861, and in that state he spent his boyhood days. He was educated in a college at Galesville, Wisconsin, and worked at the telegrapher's trade before coming to Lyon county.

In 1884 Mr. Webb became a resident of Lyon county and the first year taught school at Amiret. The next year he took the position of operator and station agent at Amiret and had charge of that station seven or eight years. About the same time he formed a partnership with his brother, the late F. W. Webb, and engaged in the mercantile business, the partnership continuing six or seven years.

Mr. Webb became the leading business man of the little village. He engaged in the lumber, coal and grain business and opened another store. He was appointed postmaster by President Cleveland in 1887 and served until 1896, when he was succeeded by his brother. During his residence in Amiret Mr. Webb served as a justice of the peace of Amiret township.

In 1897 Mr. Webb sold all his interests at Amiret and became a resident of Tracy. There he engaged in the grain and stock business, erecting the grain elevator now owned by Louis Rialson, and conducted those enterprises several years. He branched out in business, opening a general merchandise store at Garvin, although he did not move to that village. He conducted the store alone for several years and then sold a part interest to Norman S. Peterson. In 1902 Mr. Webb purchased the building at the corner of Fourth and Morgan Streets, put it in repair, and opened an exclusive grocery store, which he has since conducted. Mr. Webb

is a member of the Knights of Pythias lodge.

Mr. Webb is the father of two sons and one daughter, Roscoe, Orphia and Harry. Roscoe is a graduate of the University of Minnesota, having received the degree of B. A., and is now a student at Johns Hopkins University of Baltimore, taking a course in medicine.

Our subject is one of a family of three children, the other two being the late F. W. Webb and A. J. Webb, of Melrose, Wisconsin. Their parents were William and Mary Ann (Cannon) Webb, natives of England. They came to the United States when young and were married at Buffalo, New York. They located in Wisconsin in 1856 and in that state both died, the father in 1881 and the mother in 1888.

CHARLES F. WEDGER (1887) owns and farms the southwest quarter of section 23, Sodus township. Born in Germany September 27, 1872, he accompanied his parents when nine years of age to Fond du Lac, Wisconsin, where his father worked until 1887.

In the last mentioned year our subject accompanied his parents to Lyon county and his father purchased a quarter section of land in Sodus township. Charles resided with his parents until 1895, when he purchased the southwest quarter of section 23, Sodus township, and has resided there since. He has a fine improved farm and raises a great deal of stock in addition to his general farming. He is a member of the German Lutheran church and was director of school district No. 73 three years.

Mr. Wedger was married in Sodus township April 3, 1895, to Helen Wedger, a native of Germany. She is a daughter of Peter and Margaret (Schoer) Wedger and was born March 5, 1873. Mr. and Mrs. Wedger have no children.

EILEF E. ETRHEIM (1897) is a successful farmer of Rock Lake township. He is also a stock raiser, paying particular attention to the Shorthorn breed of cattle and Poland China swine. He is a shareholder of the Farmers Elevator Company of Balaton and has always been a progressive resident of the township. For one year he was road overseer.

The subject of this sketch was born in Odda, Hardanger, Norway, August 8, 1872, his parents being Eilef D. and Synneva (Tyssedol) Etrheim, both of whom are deceased. The boy Eilef received a high school education, being a student until eighteen years old. The next two years were spent as the driver of a tourist rig.

In the spring of 1891 Eilef came to America and went to work on a farm near Rochelle, Illinois, where he stayed for seven months, going then to Chicago and working for the McCormick Harvester Company one year. For the greater part of the next five years he made that city his home, working for the McCormick company, for the West Side Street Car Company, and at various kinds of labor. Later he went to Washburn, Wisconsin, and worked in the woods for a time before locating in Minneapolis. Mr. Etrheim remained in Minneapolis and vicinity only a short time and in November, 1897, came to Lyon county and made his home with his brother, C. E. Etrheim, on his farm in Shelburne ten years.

In December, 1906, at Eau Claire, Wisconsin, occurred the ceremony which joined in the holy bonds of matrimony Eilef E. Etrheim and Dena H. Etrheim. In the spring of 1907 they moved to a farm on the northwest quarter of section 31, Rock Lake, which Eilef and C. E. Etrheim had purchased a short time before. Eilef later bought his brother's interest.

Mrs. Etrheim is a native of Norway. She was born July 25, 1883, and is a daughter of Haldor J. and Rognhild H. (Robbe) Etrheim, the former being dead and the latter residing in Norway. Mr. and Mrs. Eilef E. Etrheim are the parents of one child, Eilef E. Etrheim, Jr., born September 23, 1907.

Six years ago Mr. Etrheim made a trip to Norway to visit his old home and was absent several months.

E. H. CARSTENS (1878) is the senior member of the firm of E. H. Carstens & Son, general merchants of Taunton. He was born in Germany April 28, 1841, a son of U. A. and Ida (Remmers) Carstens, who died in Illinois. The mother was killed in a railroad accident.

In 1852 our subject accompanied his par-

ents to the United States and located in Will county, Illinois, where the family purchased land. He resided there until his father's death in August, 1862, when he enlisted in Company D, Eighty-second Illinois Regiment, and served during the war. After the war he returned to Illinois and farmed until 1869. In the latter year he came to Minnesota, locating in Renville county, where he settled on railroad land.

Mr. Carstens resided in Renville county until 1878, when he came to Lyon county and pre-empted land in Eidsvold township. He built a small frame house, bringing the lumber from Cambria, Minnesota, on hand-cars. He resided on the farm four years. While living there he was elected road overseer, the position covering a whole township in those days. Mr. Carstens moved to Schokatan, Lincoln county, where he conducted a store three years, and then moved to Tyler, Minnesota. He opened a general store in the latter place and conducted it nine years.

The next move of our subject was to Taunton, where he bought a building and opened a general store before the depot was built. At that time there were only two elevators and a store in the town, conducted by Fred Smuhl. Our subject remained in that building until 1902, when he put up the store building he now occupies. He carries the largest stock of general merchandise in the village. In 1908 he admitted his son, Harry E., as a partner in the business, and the firm has since been conducted under the name of E. H. Carstens & Son. Our subject has been a member of the Village Council, and he served thirteen years and four months as postmaster of the village.

Mr. Carstens was married in Renville county to Minnie Lopine. They are the parents of seven children: Mary, Ida, Willie F., Paul, Henry, Harry E. and Mabel.

**AMBROSE A. REGNIER** (1883), of Lake Marshall township, was born in Kankakee, Illinois, November 15, 1867, a son of Isaac and Mary (Touschette) Regnier. The parents are natives of Canada and moved to Illinois in 1847, where they resided until 1883, when they moved to Lyon county.

Ambrose accompanied his parents to Lyon county when sixteen years of age and lived with his parents until twenty-nine years old,

when he married and started farming for himself. He farmed the northwest quarter of section 21 and forty acres on section 15, Grandview township, until 1895, when he moved to Ghent and worked for the Western Grain Company ten years. He also worked for the same firm and the Youmans Lumber Company in Marshall two years.

In 1907 Ambrose purchased forty acres on section 3, Lake Marshall township, where he now resides. He also owns four hundred acres in Sodus township, which he rents out. Mr. Regnier is assessor of Lake Marshall township, and he served as clerk and treasurer of the Grandview Township Board of Supervisors fifteen years. He also served on the Ghent School Board twelve years. He is a member of the Catholic church.

Our subject was married at Ghent October 20, 1896, to Judith Prairie, a native of Kankakee, Illinois. She is a daughter of Clovis and Mary (Lord) Prairie, natives of Canada, and was born July 30, 1872. Mr. and Mrs. Regnier are the parents of the following children: Maude, born November 28, 1898; Isabel, born July 19, 1900; Vivian, born May 15, 1907.

**GEORGE I. LE BEAU** (1883), of Ghent, is a land agent and owner of two well improved farms in the vicinity of Ghent. From 1899 until a few months ago he was in the grain business in Ghent, being the local manager and buyer for the Van Dusen Elevator Company.

George Le Beau was born in Chicago, Illinois, March 6, 1867, and moved to Kankakee county, Illinois, with his parents when quite young. In 1883 the family came to Lyon county and settled in Grandview township, the father buying the southeast quarter of section 1, in which George has had an interest since his father's death. Our subject lived at home until the age of twenty-four years, when he was given a farm on the southwest quarter of section 6, Fairview township, by his father. That place he improved and farmed, residing there until 1899, when he moved to Ghent and took charge of the elevator. Mr. Le Beau since locating in Ghent has served on the Village Council and has been a member of the Board of Education.

Our subject was married in Ghent October

27, 1891, to Lea Paradis, a daughter of Antoine Paradis, one of the Lyon county settlers of 1883. Her people came from Illinois, where she was born. There are two children, Arthur and Victor, in the family of George Le Beau.

George Le Beau has two brothers, William and Robert, living in Marshall, and a sister, Agnes, of Fairview township. The father, Victor Le Beau, died some years ago, and the mother, Catherine (O'Day) Le Beau, is still living.

EGGERT E. FJELSTAD (1878) is a farmer and landowner of Westerheim township who has lived in Lyon county many years. His farm is on section 14.

Mr. Fjelstad is a native of Iceland and was born October 30, 1840. He came to America and Lyon county in 1878, worked at farm labor in Yellow Medicine and Lyon counties one year, and then purchased from the railroad company his farm on section 14, Westerheim. He has resided continuously on that place since, engaged in farming and stock raising. Mr. Fjelstad is a member of the Icelandic Lutheran church of Westerheim township.

The marriage of our subject to Sigridur Einarsdottir occurred in Iceland October 20, 1868. She was born in that country in 1849. Mr. and Mrs. Fjelstad have two children: Albert, born July 29, 1882; and Elena Groa, born April 13, 1890. Both live with their parents.

The deceased children of the family were named Karitas, Fridfinnur, Einar, Maria, Maria, Groa, Gudbrandur and Elena. Four of the children died in Iceland in infancy; three died in Westerheim township at the ages of four, seven and eleven years. The oldest child, Karitas, was married to H. C. Lee, of Minneota. In 1902 she and her husband moved to Dooly county, Georgia. Soon after the removal to that place Mrs. Lee was taken ill and died there February 1, 1903. She left a husband and five children, who still live in Georgia.

JOSEPH SUPERNATZ (1887). One of the old residents of Lyon county is Joseph Supernatz, who has lived here for the past twenty-five years. He resides in Coon Creek

township. Joseph is a native of Canada and was born December 9, 1858, a son of Casimir and Mary Supernatz, both of whom are deceased.

The subject of this sketch received his education in the land of his nativity. After finishing school he worked for his father on the farm until twenty-eight years of age. In 1887 he came to America and located in Lyon county, and he has resided here continuously since. He farms 240 acres on section 10, Coon Creek township. He also raises stock, such as Duroc-Jersey hogs and grade cattle, and is a stockholder in the Farmers Co-operative Store Company of Russell. Mr. Supernatz is a member of the Catholic church.

On November 16, 1886, Mr. Supernatz was married to Caroline Cardinal, a daughter of Beloni and Rose Cardinal, of Canada. Mrs. Supernatz was born November 5, 1858. To them have been born the following named ten children: Mary Louise and Deneige (twins), born September 27, 1887; Leah, born July 7, 1889; Albertine, born February 13, 1891; Oscar, born May 5, 1892; Eugene, born September 8, 1893; Alexander, born September 30, 1894; Corinne, born December 15, 1895; Diana, born September 25, 1897; Hilda, born September 11, 1900. All the children reside at home.

FRANCIS J. PARKER (1878), who carries on his business under the title F. J. Parker Land Company of Marshall, is an early day resident of that city. He was born at Orwell, Oswego county, New York, July 27, 1848, the son of John and Polly Emmerson (Bonner) Parker, who were also natives of New York State.

Our subject grew to manhood on a farm in his native county and after reaching his majority took a position as clerk in the store of George Woodbury at Orwell. One year later he became a member of the firm, with which he was connected four years. He then sold his interest in the store and started a store of his own, which he conducted until 1877. He served as postmaster of Orwell seven or eight years.

In 1877 Mr. Parker sold his store and located near Rochester, Minnesota. In July, 1878, he began his residence in Marshall. For thirteen years he clerked in the store of

Ed. L. Healy and for the next eleven years he conducted a grocery store. He then opened a real estate office, which he has since conducted. He deals in real estate, makes loans and writes insurance. Mr. Parker owns several farms, which he manages. He is a member of the Royal Arcanum lodge.

Mr. Parker was married at Orwell, New York, in 1870, to Flora Woodbury, a native of Oswego county, New York. She died January 16, 1906, at the age of fifty-four years. Mr. Parker has five children, as follows: Josephine A., Bernice (Mrs. Charles Wilber), of Minneapolis; Frances (Mrs. A. C. Anderson), of Minneapolis; Florence (Mrs. O. H. Holman), of Minneapolis; and John C.

MRS. ANNA LOUISE MELLENTHIN (1884) is the widow of the late Charles Mellenthin, of Lynd township. Mrs. Mellenthin's maiden name was Anna Louise Schellin and she is a daughter of Ferdinand and Riche Schellin. When five years of age Anna accompanied her parents to America, locating on a farm in Waupaca county, Wisconsin. She made her home there with her parents until 1875, at which time she was married to Mr. Mellenthin.

Charles Mellenthin was a son of William and Amelia Mellenthin, early residents of Waupaca county, Wisconsin. He was one of the early settlers of Lynd township and one of its prosperous farmers. Mr. Mellenthin died March 22, 1898. Mr. and Mrs. Mellenthin were the parents of the following children: William, born December 22, 1879; Frank, born February 11, 1882; George, born May 15, 1883; Clara, born July 12, 1885; Albert, born March 8, 1887; Elsie, born October 6, 1893. All except William and Frank make their home with their mother. Since Mr. Mellenthin's death Mrs. Mellenthin has continued her residence on the home farm, which is operated by her sons.

ROBERT E. WILLIS (1886), after many years of business life in Tracy, moved to his farm, the northeast quarter of section 12, Monroe township, in the fall of 1911. He bought the farm in 1892 and had it farmed by a tenant until moving on the place himself. Mr. Willis owns

two residence properties in Tracy and has charge of many acres of farming land in Lyon and Redwood counties, among them being the estate of W. L. Breckenridge, which he has looked after the past six years.

Our subject was born in Washington county, Iowa, October 29, 1852. When about six weeks old he was taken with the family to Ripley county, Indiana, and lived there until fifteen years of age, when the family again moved, this time settling in Olmsted county, Minnesota. There Robert resided until the spring of 1879, working on the farm. Then he went to Walnut Grove, Redwood county, and made that his home until moving to Tracy in 1886, where he remained until taking up his residence on the farm in 1911.

During his Tracy residence Mr. Willis worked ten years for D. H. Evans in the elevator and hardware store. Three years he served the city as policeman, and later he bought grain for Finch & Parker and for the Eagle Roller Mill company. Mr. Willis conducted a dray line seven years. Our subject was alderman from the first ward two years. He is a member of the A. O. U. W. lodge of Tracy.

Robert E. Willis was married March 10, 1879, to Anna Dunnett, at Rochester, Minnesota. Mrs. Willis was born near that city December 18, 1856. To this union have been born two children, Ralph A., on January 12, 1887; and Reid R., on January 7, 1892.

Robert S. Willis, father of our subject, was born in Kentucky May 4, 1819, and died at the age of eighty-two years in Minneapolis. He served in Company A, Eighty-third Indiana Regiment, during the war and was discharged on account of poor health after an active service of two years and seven months. His wife, Eliza (Richardson) Willis, was born in New York State and died in 1883, aged sixty-seven years.

GUSTAV THIEL (1896) is one of the large land owners and progressive farmers of Stanley township. He owns three quarter sections of good farming land, has a well improved farm and one of the finest homes in the precinct.

The gentleman whose name heads this review was born in Stiglitz, Germany, December 13, 1866, the son of Gutlip and Ernestina Thiel. The father was born February 29, 1820, and died in Stanley township in 1905. The mother was born April 20, 1842, and still resides in Stanley township.

In 1870 Gustav Thiel came to America with his parents, and until his arrival to Lyon county in 1896 he lived in Green Lake county, Wisconsin. There he attended school until nineteen years of age, and after that he worked on his father's farm. When the family came to Lyon county the father purchased a section of land in Stanley township. Gustav fell heir to the northeast quarter of section 17 and later purchased the west half of the same section, making him a farm of 480 acres in one piece.

For twelve years Mr. Thiel has been clerk of his township and for eight years clerk of school district No. 90. He is a member of the German Lutheran church of Cottonwood.

Mr. Thiel was married at Marshall March 16, 1904, to Marie L. Rigge. She is the daughter of the late Gutlip Rigge, who died July 18, 1911. Her mother, Fredericka Rigge, lives in Yellow Medicine county. Mr. and Mrs. Thiel have no children.

ARCH R. ENGLISH (1887) is a lawyer of Tracy and a native of Lyon county. He was born in Tracy December 18, 1887, and with the exception of a few years spent in Waseca he has ever since resided in the city in which he was born. After graduating from the Tracy High School he read law in the office of N. J. Robinson and was admitted to the bar March 2, 1910. On that date he formed a partnership with Mr. Robinson and has since engaged in practice as a member of the firm of Robinson & English. He is a member of the Gopher Club, a social organization.

Our subject is a son of Michael and Tillie (Boydell) English, residents of Tracy. The father was born in Vermont and the mother in Chicago. They came to Lyon county in 1887. There are three

children in the family, Bert L., editor of the Tracy Headlight; Florence A. and Arch R.

Mr. English was married at Watertown, South Dakota, January 1, 1912, to Pearl D. Sturdevant, a native of Wisconsin and a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Sturdevant.

JOHN WILLIAM CASTLE (1885), of Clifton township, was born in Will county, Illinois, November 16, 1866, and is a son of William and Maria (Wilkinson) Castle, natives of England.

The parents came to the United States in 1865 and settled in Illinois, where the father farmed. There John William was born, and he was brought up on the farm, receiving an education in the country school and being called upon to help his father with the farm work. In June, 1884, the father came to Lyon county to look over the country and was so impressed that he bought the north half of section 4, Clifton township. In the fall of 1885 our subject, then a boy of nineteen, came up with a carload of horses and machinery, did some plowing on the place and prepared the land for the next year's crop. The following spring his parents and the rest of the family moved from Illinois to the new home.

John William Castle resided with his parents on the farm on section 24 until 1891. That year he bought the southwest quarter of section 14 and started farming for himself. He has today a well-improved place and is raising cattle for market in addition to his general farming. He is active in township affairs and was for ten years on the district school board. He served three years as a member of the township board.

The subject of this sketch was married in Balaton January 1, 1891, to Lorinda Robinson. She is a daughter of George and Samantha Anne (Hillyar) Robinson. Her father is dead; her mother lives in Wisconsin. To Mr. and Mrs. John W. Castle the following children were born: Anna L., born February 2, 1893; Hazel I. (deceased), born May 20, 1894; Paul L., born June 5, 1895; George W., born March 13, 1897; Dorothy L., born Octo-

ber 31, 1898; Neenah M., born March 4, 1901; and John H., born January 27, 1906.

Mr. and Mrs. Castle are members of the Methodist church. His fraternal associations are with the Modern Woodmen and Brotherhood of American Yeomen lodges, to the last named of which Mrs. Castle also belongs.

Mrs. Castle is the owner of a store building in Dudley and conducted a store and postoffice there three years. Before her marriage she was a teacher. She taught school three and one-half years in Wisconsin before coming to Lyon county and she taught three years here. In 1888 she was recommended for county superintendent of schools, but refused to run.

ALBERT J. HELSUM (1885) is a Coon Creek township farmer who has resided in Lyon county over a quarter of a century. He is a native of Svelveg, Norway, where he was born January 4, 1859, and is the son of John and Ingeborg Louise Hellum, both deceased.

Albert Hellum received his schooling in the land of his birth, attending until seventeen years of age. He then assisted his father with the farm work until twenty-two years of age. In 1881 he came to America and located at Tyler, where he resided four years, engaging in various lines of work. In 1885 he purchased the land upon which he now resides, consisting of 120 acres on section 7, Coon Creek township. In addition to his farm labors, he raises some stock, including Poland China hogs, Jersey cattle and Rhode Island Red chickens. Mr. Hellum is a member of the Norwegian Lutheran church, has been clerk of school district No. 66 for several years, and was road overseer three years. He is a stockholder of the Farmers Elevator Company of Russell and is a successful farmer and stock raiser.

Mr. Hellum was married to Bergette Christensen on March 12, 1886. She is a daughter of Rasmus and Andrina Christensen, of Coon Creek township, and a native of Helgeon, Norway, having been born August 19, 1868. Mr. and Mrs. Hellum are the parents of the following eleven

children: Annie Louise, born December 4, 1886; Eleanor Marie, born April 1, 1888; Johann Richard, born October 16, 1890; Robert Alfred, born September 7, 1892; Bertha Helma, born December 8, 1894; Carl Oscar, born August 31, 1896; Alma Regina, born June 22, 1898; Ruth Olga, born February 9, 1901; Alvin Henry, born December 12, 1902; Gerald Bernard, born November 5, 1906; Alvina Juliana, born October 18, 1908.

URBANE WILHELM (1894) is the vice president and one of the directors of the First National Bank of Balaton. He is a native of Minnesota and was born in Houston county December 27, 1872, a son of Michael and Elizabeth (Neisel) Wilhelm, pioneer residents of Minnesota. The parents came to the state in 1859 and resided in Houston county until their deaths, the father having died in 1881 and the mother in 1893.

Our subject received his early education in the common schools of Houston county, which he attended until sixteen years of age. He then engaged in farming until 1893, after which he attended La Crosse Business College one year. The year 1894 was the date of arrival of Mr. Wilhelm to Lyon county, when he settled in Balaton. He engaged in the furniture and implement business with a brother, O. E. Wilhelm, which they continued five years. Our subject then continued the business alone two years, after which he was employed as expert mechanic for the International Harvester Company five years.

The next move of Mr. Wilhelm was his return to Houston county, where he resided on the old home farm two years. He then returned to Balaton, where he was employed as clerk and manager for the Lyon County Co-operative Company two years. On November 1, 1910, Mr. Wilhelm became assistant cashier of the First National Bank, which position he held until he was made first vice president on January 1, 1912.

Mr. Wilhelm is a member of the Presbyterian church of Balaton. He is a member of the Modern Woodmen lodge and is assessor of the village of Balaton. He

served three years on the Balaton Village Council.

On June 3, 1896, occurred the marriage of our subject to Emma Weeks, a native of Lyon county and a daughter of E. R. Weeks. She was born June 30, 1877. Mr. and Mrs. Wilhelm are the parents of one child, Glen Wallace, born May 13, 1905.

PETER H. OLSON (1879) is a furniture dealer of Tracy. He was born in the land of the midnight sun on June 22, 1860, a son of Ole and Belle Olson. The father died in Norway. The mother came to the United States with her son, Peter, in 1879 and died in Tracy July 10, 1900. Peter is one of a family of six children, as follows: Gilbert Iverson, a half-brother; Alice, Tora, Henry and Belle Olson.

Peter resided in the land of his birth until 1879, when he came to America and to Lyon county. He located at Tracy and learned the carpenter's trade, which occupation he followed twenty years. He was then engaged for ten years as clerk and as cabinet-maker for J. W. Campbell, the furniture man, at Tracy. In August, 1911, Mr. Olson purchased a stock of furniture and opened a store in the city in which he has lived so long. He also does repairing and upholstering. Our subject is a member of the Sons of Norway lodge.

On October 12, 1883, occurred the marriage at Tracy of Mr. Olson to Julia Larson, a native of Iowa. Mrs. Olson died March 23, 1901. They were the parents of the following children: Oluf G., Clara B., Ludwig A., Clarence B., Lillian M. and Gilbert H. The last named died August 8, 1901, aged four years.

MRS. ANGELINE SANDERS (1885) owns a 160-acre farm on section 19, Valders township, and is assisted in its management by her sons, Anton F. and Peter J. She is the widow of Anton J. Sanders and has lived in the county more than a quarter of a century.

Angeline Vanderburg was the maiden name of our subject. She was born in Holland in September, 1857. She was married in that country in 1885 to Anton J. Sanders and the same year the young

couple journeyed across the water to Lyon county. They bought a farm in Grandview township, lived there awhile, and then sold and invested in Westerheim township. They farmed in that precinct until 1900 and then bought and located on the present place. Mr. Sanders died in 1909.

Mrs. Sanders is the mother of the following named children: John A., a blacksmith of Geyser, Montana; Theodore F., a farmer of Stark county, North Dakota; Peter, a blacksmith of Sweetgrass, Montana; Arnold T., a farmer of Red Lake Falls, Minnesota; Bernard A., of Lyon county; Anton and Peter J., who conduct the home farm.

EDWARD V. BURT (1878) farms the west half of section 24, Coon Creek township, and is a successful farmer of that precinct. He has resided in Lyon county since he was one year of age and is the son of the first settler of Coon Creek township. The farm is still owned by the pioneer resident.

Edward is a son of Dallas S. and Mary Burt. Dallas Burt was born in New York State September 11, 1845. He came to Lyon county in 1876 and took a claim in Amiret township. Two years later he homesteaded the northwest quarter of section 24, Coon Creek township. He now lives at Minetto, New York. The mother of our subject was born in Wisconsin September 11, 1856, and died February 5, 1911. There are five sons in the family, as follows: Edward and Mynard, of Russell; Benjamin, of Northcote, Minnesota; Budd H., of Winnipeg, Canada; and Charles, of Russell.

The subject of this biography was born in Minetto, Oswego county, New York, July 23, 1877, and when one year of age came to Lyon county with his parents. For four years he attended the school of district No. 63, and then until nineteen years of age he was a student at the Russell school. Thereafter for a few years Mr. Burt worked out as a farm hand. He was married in 1901 and moved to Russell, where he spent two years working on the railroad. In 1903 he moved to the farm which he now operates.



FIRST LOG CABIN IN COON CREEK

Erected by D. S. Burt in 1870. Indians Assisted the Pioneer in Rolling Up the Last Logs. In the Photograph are Mr. Burt and Mr. and Mrs. L. P. Knapp.



THE BURT HOME OF TODAY

Erected in 1900 by the Man Who Erected the First Log Cabin in Coon Creek Township.



Mr. Burt raises Durham cattle, Duroc-Jersey hogs and Rhode Island Red and Plymouth Rock chickens. He has stock in the Lyon County Co-operative Store Company and the Farmers Mutual Telephone Company. He is a member of the Presbyterian church of Russell and is treasurer of the church society. He holds membership in the M. W. A. and Royal Neighbors lodges.

The marriage of Mr. Burt to Pearl May Clow occurred in Lyon county June 18, 1901. She was born in Iowa July 21, 1885, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. O. W. Clow, of Winnebago City. Mr. Clow was born in Blue Earth county, Minnesota, in 1861. Mrs. Clow was born at Liscomb, Iowa, in 1866. Mr. and Mrs. Burt have four children: Earl Le Roy, Jessie May, Charles Edward and Marion Clare.

HERMAN JOSEPHSON (1878), Westerheim township farmer, has spent the greater part of his life in Lyon county. He was born in Iceland July 1, 1860, and came to America and Lyon county in 1878. He worked as a farm hand until 1892. Then he bought the northeast quarter of section 16, Westerheim township, made all the improvements on the place, and has had his home there since. He has prospered and is now the owner of 200 acres in one body. He farms all his land and 160 acres additional.

Mr. Josephson was married in Lincoln county to Bertha Josephson. She was also a native of Iceland and died April 6, 1905. The following five children were born to the union: August, John, Rosa, Lillian and Adalbjorn. The second marriage of Mr. Josephson was to Christina Thordarson, also a native of the land within the Arctic circle. They have four children, Sigpora, Herman, Johina and Josephina.

PAUL K. RONNING (1878) is a retired farmer living in the village of Florence. He is a pioneer resident of Lyon county, having come in 1878. He is a native of Norway and was born at Trondhjem January 25, 1845, a son of Knute E. and Marit (Paulsen) Ronning.

Our subject received his early education

in the land of his nativity, attending the common schools until fifteen years of age and then attending a Lutheran religious school one year. After completing his schooling, Paul worked at farm labor in the land of the midnight sun until twenty-seven years of age. Then he came to America and located at Ishpeming, Michigan, where he worked in the mines two years. He then journeyed to La Crosse, Wisconsin, where he worked in the woods and sawmills three years. Moving to Canada, he worked on the Canadian Pacific railroad one year and then returned to Wisconsin, where he spent one summer on the railroad.

In the fall of 1878 Mr. Ronning came to Lyon county and took as a homestead the southwest quarter of section 32, Shelburne township, upon which he resided until moving to Florence. He is the owner of 260 acres of fine land in Shelburne township and a fine home in the village of Florence. Mr. Ronning is a member of the Norwegian Lutheran church.

On January 3, 1880, occurred the marriage of Mr. Ronning to Melina Peterson, a native of Norway and a daughter of Peter A. and Carrie (Corneliusson) Sanden. Mrs. Ronning was born November 30, 1849. Two nephews, Clare M. and Palmar Carl Sanden, make their homes with Mr. and Mrs. Ronning.

HALVOR A. STORLIE (1887) is the owner of over 200 acres of the fertile soil of Shelburne township and is one of the precinct's substantial farmers. He has lived in the county a quarter of a century. His farm is in the southwestern corner of the county, a couple of miles south of Florence.

Mr. Storlie is a native of Opdal, Trondhjem, Norway, and was born January 27, 1866. Until after reaching his majority he lived in his native land, attending school and working at farm labor. He came to the United States in 1887 and direct to Lyon county, arriving in the county October 12. Prior to 1893 Mr. Storlie worked for the farmers of Shelburne township; then he purchased land on section 28, of that township, broke out a part of it, and started in business for himself. Soon after he traded that farm for one of 100 acres on section 32, and there he has ever since lived. He added to his holdings in January, 1910, by the purchase of

over 100 acres on section 31. Mr. Storlie raises Percheron and Norman horses, Short-horn cattle and Poland China hogs.

For the past seven years Mr. Storlie has been a member of the Board of Supervisors of his township, was a director of school district No. 57 for six years, and was road overseer three years. He is a member of the Norwegian Lutheran church of Florence and is treasurer of the church society.

Our subject's father, Arnt O. Storlie, died in the old country in 1883; his mother still lives in Opdal. The children of the family are Sakarias, Christopher A. and Maret (Mrs. Andrew Sanden), of Lyon county, and Ole and John, of Norway.

H. A. Storlie and Maret Bakke were married in Shelburne township April 15, 1897, by Rev. H. Aanestad. Mrs. Storlie was born in Norway August 2, 1875, the daughter of Severt O. and Guri (Standdater) Bakke. The family came to America in 1883, lived in Yellow Medicine county until 1891, and since that date have resided in Lac qui Parle county. Besides Mrs. Storlie there are the following named children in the family, with one exception all living in Lac qui Parle county: Ole, Oliver, of St. John's, Oregon; Robert, John, Ragna (Mrs. James Ravang), Hilda, Olga (Mrs. William Wilson), Lena, Mena and Gena.

Mr. and Mrs. Storlie have two children: Orla Gevarda, born July 30, 1908; Arnold Sherman, born August 19, 1911.

ABNER G. BUMFORD (1879), clerk of the district court of Lyon county, is one of the homesteaders and pioneer settlers of the county. He was born at Racine, Wisconsin, March 24, 1858, and there he resided until past twenty-one years of age. He secured a district school education and during the winter of 1877-78 attended Cobb Business College at Paynesville, Ohio.

In November, 1879, Mr. Bumford arrived in Lyon county, of which he has ever since been a resident. He bought a homestead relinquishment to eighty acres on section 22, Custer township, improved the place, and proved up on it. Later he bought an adjoining quarter on section 23. In 1902 he was elected clerk of court and has ever since held the office, making his home at the county seat.

During his residence in the county Mr. Bumford held several local offices. He was clerk of school district No. 47 for twenty-one years and was town clerk fourteen years. He served as clerk of Bethel Congregational Church for many years. He holds membership in the Workmen, Woodmen and Yeomen orders. Mr. Bumford was one of the principal organizers of the Western Mutual Insurance Company of Balaton, one of the most prosperous insurance companies in this part of the state, and was a director for a number of years. He also served as secretary of the Garvin Creamery Company, the only farmers' co-operative creamery in Lyon county.

Abner Bumford was married in Lyon county June 22, 1881, to Laura A. Davis. She is a native of Wales, came to America at the age of six years, settled in Blue Earth county, Minnesota, in 1872 and in Lyon county in 1874. Her parents took as a homestead claim the southeast quarter of section 34, Sodus township. Mr. Davis died in September, 1887, and Mrs. Davis died at the home of her daughter August 31, 1910.

Ten children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Bumford, of whom the following named five are living: M. Eleanor, David, of Windham, Montana; Mary, a student at Grinnell College; Laura and Gordon, high school students. The deceased children were Myrthen, who died in September, 1899, at the age of two years; William O., who died in March, 1900, at the age of seventeen years; Jennie, who died April 1, 1903, at the age of four years; Clay, who died June 2, 1903, at the age of two years; and Cradoc, who died March 31, 1908, at the age of twenty years.

The subject of this sketch is the son of the late David and Ellen (Roberts) Bumford, natives of Wales. The mother died in July, 1861. David Bumford came to Lyon county in 1877, took a homestead in Monroe township, and for some time prior to his death in December, 1889, made his home with his son Abner.

PETER H. JERPAK (1890), of Nordland township, owns and farms the south half of the southwest quarter of section 10. He became a resident of Lyon county twenty-two years ago, but his residence in Lincoln county dates back much farther, having been only

seven years of age when the family came to Southwestern Minnesota.

Jens and Hannah Jerpbak, the parents of our subject, came from Norway in 1875 and became the first settlers of Limestone township, Lincoln county. They took a homestead there and for a few years the family was the only one in the township. Jens Jerpbak now makes his home with our subject; his wife is dead. There were eleven children in the family, of whom the following named are living: John and Iver, of South Dakota; Jens, of North Dakota; Gilda (Mrs. John Sol-seng), of Larimore, North Dakota; Carrie (Mrs. Silas Edwards), of McKenna, North Dakota; Mary (Mrs. Gulle Olson), of Clearwater, Idaho; Ingeborg (Mrs. Chris Clemensen), of Bemidji, Minnesota; Dena (Mrs. Gisle Hanson), of Clearwater, Idaho; and Peter H., of this review.

The gentleman whose name heads this sketch was born in Norway February 16, 1868. He came to America with the family in 1875 and spent his boyhood days on the homestead in Lincoln county, securing a common school education and assisting with the farm work. In 1890 he rented land in Grandview township, Lyon county, and farmed it two years. He then returned to the parental home and resided there two years, working for his father, conducting a threshing machine, and farming land he had bought on section 30, Nordland township.

In 1894 Mr. Jerpbak was married and moved to his 240-acre farm on sections 30 and 19, Nordland. He conducted that place until the fall of 1910, when he moved to his present farm on section 10, which he bought the year before, having sold his other farm. He has a well-improved place and engages quite extensively in raising stock.

Mr. Jerpbak is a member and one of the trustees of the Norwegian Lutheran church of Nordland township. He holds membership in the M. W. A. lodge of Minneota. For about fourteen years he was clerk of school district No. 29 and he served as road overseer for a short time. Mr. Jerpbak has stock in the Farmers Elevator Company of Minneota.

The marriage of our subject to Hannah Teigland occurred in Nordland township November 21, 1894. His wife is a native of Lyon county and was born October 3, 1874, a daughter of pioneer settlers, Sever and

Anna Teigland. Mr. and Mrs. Jerpbak have nine children, all living at home. They are Selmer, Jens, Henry, George, Leonard, Alma, Clara, Anna and Luella.

DR. CARL E. WHITING (1887), Marshall dentist, was born near Rochester, Minnesota, June 1, 1883, a son of William S. and Aura (Freeman) Whiting. The family located in Balaton in 1887 and the father engaged in the mercantile business there until 1908. He has since been a traveling salesman and he and his wife live in Northfield.

Carl Whiting attended school in Balaton until 1901. He then took a one-year course in Macalester College, St. Paul, after which he was a student in the Dental Department of Northwestern University, Chicago, from which he was graduated in May, 1905. Dr. Whiting began the practice of his profession at Arlington, South Dakota, and remained there until 1912. That year he located in Marshall, bought the dental business of Dr. John D. Kennedy, and has since engaged in practice. He has a well equipped office and is well patronized.

Dr. Whiting was married at Marshall June 28, 1907, to Leora Watkins, a native of the county. Mrs. Whiting died in Marshall May 8, 1912. There is one child, Frances F., born July 28, 1908.

JOHN H. LEAS (1903) is the owner of a well-improved 480-acre farm in Stanley township and makes his home in Cottonwood, where he has a fine residence. For the past five years, in addition to looking after his farm, he has made a specialty of tile and drainage engineering and has done considerable of this work.

Mr. Leas was born at Rossville, Iowa, February 21, 1861, and is a son of Jeremiah and Susannah (Henderson) Leas, both of whom are living a retired life in Rossville. Our subject received his early education in the common schools near his native town and later attended the Waukon Private Seminary at Waukon, Iowa, until twenty-two years old. He then returned to the home farm and worked three years. Mr. Leas married Ida May Kelly on February 23, 1886. She was born July 12, 1866, and is a daughter of John and Jane (Lewis) Kelly, former residents

of Rossville, and both now deceased. After his marriage Mr. Leas engaged in farming near his old home seven years and then went into Sunday School work.

Mr. Leas affiliated with the Presbyterian church when quite young. In May, 1903, the American Sunday School Union engaged him to do Sunday School organizing work in Rock county, Wisconsin, where he labored two years. Accepting a commission under the Mankato Division of the Presbyterian Board of Sabbath School Work, Mr. Leas was engaged for the next ten years in Minnesota, finally being forced to give up his work on account of ill health. Our subject was responsible for the organization of thirty-two Presbyterian churches and for raising funds for building several churches in Southwestern Minnesota. He started the organization and helped to raise funds for the Clifton and Green Valley churches in Lyon county.

To Mr. Leas is due much credit for the success of the Y. M. C. A. movement in Cottonwood. That organization has a membership of twenty-nine young men, aged eleven to seventeen, in Cottonwood and vicinity. The organization is active under Mr. Leas' leadership and is increasing in numbers. Meetings are held every Tuesday evening at 7:30 at the Y. M. C. A. rooms in Cottonwood, and since the organization was started in October, 1909, much interest in the work has been evident. Mr. Leas is an elder of the First Presbyterian Church and has for a number of years been superintendent of the Sunday School.

Mr. and Mrs. John Leas have one child, Ida Merle, born October 27, 1899. Two children died in infancy.

ARNI S. JOSEPHSON (1895) is one of the big grain farmers and stock raisers of Eidsvold township and one of the most progressive men of northwestern Lyon county. His progress is an example of what can be accomplished by intelligence and thrift. Less than twenty years ago he came to Lyon county from Iceland, without knowledge of the language or customs of the country and without a dollar to his name. So poor was he, in fact, that he had to borrow money to buy his first sack of flour. His first employ-

ment was hauling hay at twenty-five cents per day.

Today Mr. Josephson is the owner of 400 acres of improved land in Eidsvold township, one of the finest farm homes in Lyon county, and large herds of cattle, hogs and sheep. With the assistance of his sons, Helgi and Frank, he farms all his land. In 1910 he threshed 6000 bushels of small grain, and in 1912 he has planted one hundred acres of corn and 200 acres of grain. During the winter of 1911-12 he shipped a car load each of cattle, hogs and sheep.

When Mr. Josephson purchased his present farm a few years ago the only improvement it boasted was an old house, 18x24 feet. Now there is not a farm in the county that is better improved. He has erected an entire new set of outbuildings, including two silos, and has fenced the whole farm. The house, erected at a cost of \$4000, is two and one-half stories high and contains thirteen rooms besides the basement rooms. It is modern in every respect, having hot and cold soft water, bath rooms, and is heated by a hot water plant. All the rooms on the lower floor are finished in oak and three of the rooms are hand decorated.

The gentleman who has accomplished this was born in Iceland August 27, 1861, the son of Sigfus and Wilborg (Arniedottir) Josephson. The mother died in the old country in 1890; the father, who is now eighty-one years of age, lives with his son. The only other child in the family is Mat Josephson, of Winnipeg, Canada.

Arni lived with his parents in Iceland until his mother's death in 1890. Then the father came to America, and our subject, who had married, remained behind with the rest of the family. He followed in 1895 and arrived in Minneota on August 29. After working at farm labor one year, he moved to Marshall, and for three years he was employed by a contractor there. Mr. Josephson then purchased a quarter section of land on section 6, Limestone township, Lincoln county, and farmed there nine years. He prospered, bought an additional eighty acres in Marble township, and later another quarter in Alta Vista township.

In 1908 Mr. Josephson traded his 400 acres of Lincoln county land for an equal number of acres in Eidsvold township, Lyon county, moved to the new home, and has made the

improvements as above noted. His land is described as follows: The south half of the north half of section 12, Eidsvold, and the northwest quarter and the west half of the northeast quarter of section 7, Westerheim. Mrs. Josephson and the children are members of the Icelandic Lutheran church of Westerheim township.

The first marriage of Mr. Josephson occurred in Iceland in 1889, when he wedded Fredrickka Helgadottir. She bore him two sons, Helgi and Frank, and died November 27, 1896, at the age of twenty-five years. Our subject's second marriage was to Bjorg Jonesdottir, who died three years later. Three children were born to the union, Anna, Sigurd and Fredrickka. In February, 1902, Mr. Josephson was married to Olinia Sigridur, also a native of the land of snow within the Arctic circle. They have five children, named as follows: Margaret, Maria, Oscar, Olinia and Gudrun.

THEODORE STASSEN (1891), saloon keeper and hotel proprietor, has been a resident of Lyon county for the past twenty-one years and has been living in Ghent for eleven years. Theodore and his brother Mike are joint owners and proprietors of the Exchange Hotel and sample rooms and of the Stassen Brothers Saloon. Theodore is a director of the Ghent Rural Telephone Company and is a shareholder of the Lyon County Agricultural Association. He is a member of the Catholic church, and fraternally he is allied with the C. O. F. lodge, of which he is treasurer.

Our subject was born in Belgium May 17, 1870. His parents are Louis and Katrina Elizabeth (Mulleneers) Stassen, both of whom are residents of Fairview township. Theodore received his education in Belgium and later worked for his father at farm labor, both before and after the family moved to this country in 1891. The family located in Fairview township, where the parents now live.

In 1897 the young man started out for himself and farmed for different people in the county for the following four years. In company with Casper Van Allvorst he then engaged in the saloon business at Ghent, selling out to Julius Vander Vanett after one year's experience. He was not

long idle, however, and within a few weeks had purchased the saloon of Arthur Gits, continued the business at its former location one year, and then moved the stock and fixtures to the Fred Lerschen building. In this building for the past seven years the saloon has been conducted under the firm name of Stassen Brothers, and Theodore has been associated with his brother Mike, both in the saloon and in the management of the Exchange Hotel.

Theodore Stassen was married October 27, 1903, to Delia Bankers, a native of Pierre, Wisconsin. Three children have been born to this union, two of whom are living. Adeline Annie died April 18, 1911, aged four months. The other children, a boy and a girl, are named Joseph and Evelyn Mary Elizabeth.

JOHN ALLECKSON (1886) owns and farms the northeast quarter of section 6, Island Lake township. Although he has been a resident of Lyon county only twenty-five years, he is a pioneer of Southwestern Minnesota and a homesteader of Lincoln county.

His parents were Jens and Ragna (Spilde) Alleckson, who came from Norway in 1846 and made settlement in Dane county, Wisconsin. They later moved to Juneau county of the same state, and there the subject of this review was born, on December 10, 1855.

In his native county John Alleckson secured his education and grew to manhood on the farm. In 1879 he moved to Lincoln county, Minnesota, and took a homestead. He secured title to the land and engaged in farming there seven years. In 1886 he disposed of his Lincoln county property, moved to his Lyon county farm, and remained there until 1894. That year he moved to Minnesota and for thirteen years was engaged in the livery business. Mr. Alleckson bought a quarter section farm in Eidsvold township in 1895 and disposed of it in 1909. In 1910 he moved to his present farm in Island Lake.

In Juneau county, Wisconsin, on October 15, 1872, Mr. Alleckson was united in marriage to Torbur Ortun. She was born in Norway on Christmas Day, 1857, and died in 1886. The second marriage of

Mr. Alleckson occurred in Lyon county July 22, 1889, when he wedded Augustine Wolfe. She was born in Iceland August 17, 1872, the daughter of Arne and Sarah (Johnson) Wolfe. Mr. Alleckson has ten children, named as follows: Bertha C., Lulu, Theodore J., Alleck J., Andrew F., Mabel J., Marvin G., Antha, Peter J., Samuel A. and Freda H. The family are members of the Lutheran church.

HANS PETERSON (1887) owns and farms the south half of the southwest quarter of section 19, Lyons township. He is a native of Denmark and was born May 28, 1851. Hans received his schooling and grew to manhood in the land of his birth and served one and one-half years in the standing army. His parents are Peter and Kristina (Jergenson) Rasmusson.

In 1883 our subject came to the United States and located at Maquoketa, Jackson county, Iowa, where he worked four years in a limekiln. In 1887 he came to Lyon county, having purchased eighty acres in Coon Creek township. Later he purchased the eighty acres in Lyons township where he now resides. Mr. Peterson served one term on the Township Board of Supervisors of Coon Creek township and three terms as assessor. He served as assessor of Russell seven or eight years and one term on the Township Board of Supervisors. He is a member of the Danish Lutheran church and the Masonic and Workmen lodges.

Mr. Peterson was married in Denmark to Ellen Peterson, a daughter of Peter and Ellen Jensen. Mrs. Peterson was born in Denmark October 14, 1844. Mr. and Mrs. Peterson are the parents of the following four children: Jens P., Hans C., William C. and Carrie K.

ARTHUR J. KILE (1883) is the proprietor of a harness shop in Minneota and is the oldest merchant in the village in point of continuous service, with the exception of Dr. Seals. He has taken an active part in the affairs of the village which he has seen grow from a hamlet of small pretensions.

Arthur Kile has lived in Minnesota all

his life. He was born in Houston county April 2, 1867, and in 1879 he accompanied the family to Lincoln county. The father homesteaded land in Limestone township, but the following year the family returned to their former home. Arthur lived with his folks three years and then became a resident of Lyon county. For a short time he worked for farmers in the vicinity of Minneota and in 1884 he started a harness shop in the village with a capital of \$125. He had no previous experience in the business and learned the trade from A. E. Winters after establishing the business.

Mr. Kile met with success in the business and has ever since continued it, a continuous period of twenty-eight years. He manufactures harness and deals in harness goods, blankets, whips, robes, etc. Mr. Kile is one of the stockholders of the Farmers & Merchants Bank and during the past three years has been vice president of that institution. He has served as a member of the Village Council and is a member of the M. W. A. lodge. He has a one-half interest in a farm in Yellow Medicine county.

The father of our subject was George Kile, who, after returning to Houston county in 1880, resided there thirteen years and then moved to Madison, Minnesota, and lived with a daughter until his death on February 28, 1911, at the age of eighty-four years. Barbara Kile, our subject's mother, died August 17, 1895. Arthur is the youngest of a family of six children, the others being as follows: Fred, of Houston county; Mrs. Minnie Kitzniger, of Madison, Minnesota; George, of Houston county; Sam, who perished in the October storm of 1880, an account of whose death may be found in the historical part of this volume; Mrs. G. C. Mantel, of Spokane, Washington.

Arthur Kile was married in Madison, Minnesota, August 10, 1894, to Betsey Uglem, who was born in Norway and who came to the United States when seven years old. They have three children, Bulah, Harold and Barbara.

E. JOHN ERICKSON (1887), a farmer and landowner of Shelburne township, was

born in Sweden June 7, 1859. His parents, Erick and Stena (Johnson) Erickson, came to America in 1870, lived at Mankato two years, and then took a homestead in Murray county. The father died there and the mother still lives on the old homestead.

When he was eleven years of age our subject came to America with his mother and sisters, the father having come some time before. When the Winona & St. Peter railroad was constructed through Lyon county in the summer of 1872, although he was only a child, John Erickson worked with the construction crew. In the fall of that year he moved to his father's homestead in Murray county and for several years lived with his parents. He then worked at various occupations in different parts of Minnesota. In 1878 he went to Northfield and for six years was engaged in farming in Scott county.

In 1885 Mr. Erickson sold a farm he owned in Scott county and purchased the land he now resides on in Shelburne township, 240 acres on sections 36 and 35. Two years later he moved to his farm and has ever since resided thereon. Mr. Erickson has prospered since coming to Lyon county and has been very successful. He raises Shorthorn cattle, Poland China hogs, Percheron horses and full-blooded chickens.

Mr. Erickson was married in Scott county April 1, 1880, to Junala Olson. She was born in Norway February 22, 1862, and came to America with her parents when four years of age. The family lived in Goodhue county and later in Scott county, where her parents still reside. The following children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Erickson: Clara, Sophia, Erick, Anton, Elmer, Olda, Manda and Hannah.

FRED NIELSEN (1887). One of the prosperous farmers of Coon Creek township is Fred Nielsen, who resides on the east half of the northeast quarter of section 36. He was born in Denmark June 28, 1855, and received his education and grew up in that country. His parents are Niels and Annie D. (Jorgenson) Jensen, the former a day laborer in the old country.

When our subject was but six years of age he went to work herding cattle and

has had to make his own way since. When twenty-two years of age he enlisted in the army and served one and one-half years. He then worked out two years, after which he came to the United States, locating in Jackson county, Iowa, where he worked at farm labor four years.

In 1887 Mr. Nielsen came to Lyon county and bought the farm in Coon Creek township which he still owns and operates. He has made all the improvements on the place, as the farm was all prairie when he moved there. He raises Poland China hogs and grade cattle and is a stockholder in the Farmers Elevator Company of Russell. Mr. Nielsen is a member of the Danish Lutheran church of Tyler. He was road overseer in his township two years.

Mr. Nielsen was married at Tyler October 2, 1892, to Cecelia Nielsen, a native of Denmark and a daughter of Chris and Cecelia (Dahl) Nielsen. Mrs. Nielsen was born October 9, 1862. They are the parents of one child, Charles A., born November 30, 1893.

RAY D. BALDWIN (1879). For more than thirty-three years Ray D. Baldwin was a resident of Lyon county; in April, 1912, he moved to Forest Grove, Oregon, to make his future home. During his long residence in Lyon county, most of the time in Marshall, Ray was active in affairs of a local nature.

The subject of this review was born at Pilot Mound, Fillmore county, Minnesota, October 16, 1868, and on his father's homestead near that place spent his childhood days. He accompanied the family to Lyon county in 1879, lived on the farm in Stanley township until 1881, and thereafter resided in Marshall. He was educated in the Marshall High School and then learned the printer's trade. His first work at the trade was in the News-Messenger office in 1887 and with the exception of a very few years he was connected with that journal until his removal to Oregon in 1912. During that period he spent one and one-half years in the shingle business at Port Orchard, Washington, and in 1891-92 was deputy county auditor under his father.

Mr. Baldwin served for a time as vice

president of the Marshall Building and Loan Association and he was a member of the Marshall Fire Department from the time of its organization until he left the city. He was chief engineer of the department when the equipment consisted of the old fire engine. He is a member of the Modern Woodmen lodge.

Alice M. Bellingham became the wife of Ray Baldwin on September 27, 1898. She is a native of Lake Marshall township and the daughter of Charles Bellingham, one of the earliest settlers of the precinct, who took a homestead claim on section 20. Mr. and Mrs. Baldwin have two children: Ray D., Jr., aged twelve; and Gertrude, aged seven.

MRS. MARY TROUT (1884) is the owner of 720 acres of land in Amiret township and makes her home on the northeast quarter of section 14.

Our subject's maiden name was Mary Reid, and she was born in New York February 3, 1864, her parents being John and Jane (Hunter) Reid. The father died when Mary was three months old and the family soon after moved to Canada, where our subject resided until twenty years of age. Her mother came to Lyon county in 1883 and made her home with a son in Amiret township until eight years ago, when the son died. Since that time Mrs. Reid has been a resident of Tracy.

Mary Reid came to Lyon county in the fall of 1884 and worked out as a maid several years. In October, 1892, occurred her marriage to Joseph Trout, a native of Pennsylvania and an early resident of Lyon county. Mr. Trout prospered greatly during his residence in the county and at the time of his death, May 27, 1903, he was the owner of 400 acres of land in Amiret township. His family have since then increased their holdings to 720 acres. By her marriage to Mr. Trout our subject became the mother of three children, as follows: Benjamin, born September 16, 1893; Rufus, born December 9, 1896; and Jennie, born November 15, 1899. All the children are at home with their mother.

Mrs. Trout was married a second time to Leir Ketchum, a resident of Wisconsin. He died March 29, 1911. Our subject is

a member of the Maccabee and the Degree of Honor lodges of Tracy.

HERMAN F. RISTOW (1887) is a resident of Russell who was section foreman on sections twelve and thirteen of the Great Northern railway for twenty-two years. He has been a resident of Lyon county for a quarter of a century and was the second man to locate in the village of Russell. Herman was born in Adle Lantag, Germany, on December 15, 1854, the son of Jacob and Katherine Caroline (Draves) Ristow, who died when our subject was only four years of age.

Herman attended school in Germany until fourteen years of age, after which he was engaged in the following lines of labor in the land of his nativity prior to coming to the United States: in a lock factory seven months, in railroad construction work five years, in the whiskey distilleries three years, and on the railroad doing section work for the government three years.

In August, 1885, Mr. Ristow came to the United States and located in Traverse county, Minnesota, where he worked with threshing crews and at farm labor two years. Then he came to Lyon county and engaged in similar work two years. He then worked for a year near Camden, helping in the construction of the Great Northern railroad. In March, 1888, he moved to the new village of Russell and worked as a section hand six months, after which he was given a position as foreman, which he held for twenty-two consecutive years, resigning in June, 1911.

In 1905 Mr. Ristow purchased a tract of land near Russell and now devotes his time to farming it. Besides his farm land he owns a nice home and two lots in Russell. He is a member of the German Lutheran church. He served three years as a director of the Russell School Board and one year as a member of the Town Board. Mr. Ristow has prospered since coming to Lyon county. He came to America penniless and experienced trying times of frontier life.

Mr. Ristow is a man of family. He was married to Amelia Bohlman, a native of Germany and a daughter of John and

Louise (Sell) Bohlman. Mr. and Mrs. Ristow are the parents of the following named four children: Otto, born May 15, 1882; Max, born November 19, 1884; Paul, born May 6, 1887; Albert (the first white child born in Russell), born July 29, 1889. Otto and Max were born at Eberstein, Germany, and Paul was born in Traverse county, Minnesota.

JOHN FRANKLIN BRANTNER (1898) is grain buyer for the Western Elevator Company at Heckman. He was born in Ogle county, Illinois, August 14, 1854, a son of Michael and Mary (Phillips) Brantner, natives of Maryland. Both parents are deceased.

John resided with his parents in Illinois until twenty-five years of age, attending school and working for his father on the farm. In 1879 he went to Sioux Falls, South Dakota, where he worked in a lumber yard two years for Ed. Sharp & Company, after which he worked one year at farm labor. The next four years were spent in the pinneries near Shell Lake, Wisconsin. From there he went to Lake Preston, South Dakota, where he homesteaded a quarter section of land and resided three years, being also engaged in buying grain for the G. W. Van Dusen Elevator Company. He then moved to Elkton, South Dakota, where he had charge of the O. L. Marfield elevator fifteen years.

In 1901 Mr. Brantner moved to Marshall and had charge of the O. L. Marfield elevator three years. He then went to Heckman, took charge of the Western Elevator Company's house, and has resided there since. He deals in grain and coal. Heckman is quite a shipping point for hay, grain and stock. In 1901 a postoffice was established at Heckman and Mrs. Brantner was appointed postmistress. She has held the position continuously since. Mr. Brantner holds membership in the Masonic lodge.

At Elkton, South Dakota, December 11, 1888, occurred the marriage of Mr. Brantner to Julia Enke, a daughter of John C. and Marie (Schmelzer) Enke, of Verdi, Minnesota. Mrs. Brantner was born at Omaha, Nebraska, June 15, 1866. To Mr. and Mrs. Brantner have been born the following four children: Cecil F., born August 24, 1892;

Claud B., born December 16, 1893; Ada M., born June 6, 1901; Harold R., born October 31, 1903.

JOHN BREEN (1884), one of Westerheim township's well-known farmers, was born in the county of Kerry, Ireland, October 7, 1849. His parents died while John was a boy, and at the age of sixteen he came to America. He landed in Boston and immediately found an opportunity to learn the leather finishing trade in a courier's leather factory. He worked at the trade eight years, part of the time attending night school and finishing his education.

In 1875 young Breen went to Missouri, purchased eighty acres of land in Knox county, and farmed five years. He then went to Chicago and took up his trade again, continuing at that work two years. He came to Lyon county in 1884 and purchased the southwest quarter of section 35, Westerheim township, where he has since lived. There were no improvements on the place and Mr. Breen has planted the groves, constructed the buildings and farmed the land to its best advantage; today he has one of the best improved pieces of farm land in the township. He has found the raising of cattle a profitable business and every year ships a carload of fattened steers and hogs to market. In addition to his 466 acres of Lyon county land Mr. Breen owns some good lands in Canada.

Our subject is a stockholder and vice president of the First State Bank of Ghent, and he was one of the organizers and is the president of the Farmers Co-operative Elevator Company of the same place. He has been active in township affairs and has been for some time clerk of school district No. 44 and is on the board of supervisors.

John Breen's marriage to Margaret McMahon occurred in Chicago in 1874. To this union four children were born, as follows: Maurice, a real estate agent of Minneapolis; John, a business man of Lewiston; Mary (Mrs. William C. Ahern) of Minneota; and Nellie, a school teacher. Mrs. Breen died in 1883.

On November 21, 1890, our subject was married a second time, to Mary E. McLoughen, the wedding taking place in Lincoln county, Minnesota. She was born in

Boston, Massachusetts, and moved with her parents to Sleepy Eye, Minnesota, where they lived several years, finally locating in Lincoln county. To this second marriage the following children were born: Sarah, a clerk in Marshall; Henry, a Marshall High School student; Bessie, Jerry and James, at home on the farm.

The subject of this sketch is one of six children born to Maurice and Ellen (Courtney) Breen. The other children are Jerry, of Winchester, Massachusetts; Maurice, of Philadelphia; Catherine (Mrs. Patrick Sullivan), of Winchester; and Patrick and Thomas, deceased.

Mr. Breen is a member of the Catholic church of Ghent and holds membership in the Knights of Columbus lodge.

A. M. MOORE (1880) is cashier of the First State Bank of Balaton, treasurer of the Village Council, and treasurer of the Western Mutual Fire Insurance Company of Balaton, a home company that carries two and a half million dollars insurance. Mr. Moore was made assistant cashier of the bank in 1902; in 1904 he was made cashier, which position he has held since.

The subject of this review was born in Cottonwood county, Minnesota, August 7, 1878, and when two years of age accompanied his parents to Balaton. After finishing his schooling he worked five years for the Northwestern Railroad Company as agent and operator in Minnesota and in North and South Dakota. In 1902 Mr. Moore entered upon his duties in the bank. He is a son of J. A. and Eva D. (Moore) Moore, the former a native of Massachusetts and the latter of Jackson county, Minnesota. The subject of this sketch holds membership in the Masonic and Workmen lodges.

On November 15, 1906, occurred the marriage of Mr. Moore to Lulu McNabb, a native of Balaton and a daughter of Archie McNabb, an early settler of that village. Mr. and Mrs. Moore have one child, Archie M.

ROBERT M. NEILL (1874), treasurer of Lyon county, is a native son and has spent his entire life within the county. He was born in Lyons township May 3, 1874, on his

father's homestead on section 26. He is the son of pioneer settlers, William and Agnes (Marshall) Neill, who came to the county in 1872, they having been born in Scotland. The mother died in 1891; the father now resides in Marshall and is associated with A. R. Chace in dealing in machinery and live stock.

Robert attended the district school and grew to young manhood on the farm. In 1888 he became a student of the Marshall High School and was graduated from that institution with the class of 1893. After his school days he entered the grocery store of F. J. Parker as clerk and was so employed several years. He then took a position as bookkeeper with the H. W. Ross Lumber Company and two years later was promoted to the management of the Marshall yards. He resigned his position in 1906 to become a candidate for county treasurer and was elected that fall. He has been twice re-elected and has since held the office. Prior to his election Mr. Neill served two years as treasurer of Marshall. He is a member of the Masonic Chapter, M. W. A. and B. A. Y. lodges.

Mr. Neill was married at Austin, Minnesota, August 17, 1897, to Minnie B. Andrew, a native of Canada. They have three children: Alice Marjorie, Clarence Leroy and Alieen Gwendolyn.

OTTO WEKING (1885), of Lynd township, is a homesteader of Lyon county and has lived on the place he filed upon more than a quarter of a century ago.

Otto was born on his father's farm in Sweden August 22, 1859, and spent his boyhood days in his native land. He is the only one of the family to come to America. He has one brother and two sisters living in the old country; both of his parents are buried there. In 1880, when he was twenty-one years of age, Otto came to America. He worked in a malt house in Chicago two years, and for three years he worked in the coal mines in Grundy county, Illinois.

Mr. Weking came to Lyon county in 1885, bought the homestead right to the northwest quarter of section 6, Lynd township, proved up on the claim, and has made his home there ever since. He has a fine farm, improved with substantial buildings, all the

product of his labors. He is a member of the Swedish Lutheran church and for eighteen years has been treasurer of school district No. 38. Mr. Weking is not married.

HENRY C. HEINE (1879) is one of Tracy's first merchants. He located there in 1879 and opened a hand-made shoe factory in a little building on the site of his present store. The original building was burned in 1891 and Mr. Heine then erected the fine two-story brick establishment which he now occupies. He is one of Tracy's foremost business men.

Henry Heine was born in Germany March 26, 1851. At an early age he learned the shoemaker's trade. In 1871 he came to the United States, locating at Tomah, Wisconsin, near which place his sister, Mrs. Zahret, lived. He worked at his trade in Tomah for some time and later in the towns of Oronoco, Dodge Center, and Marshall, Minnesota, before moving to Tracy in 1879. A few years after locating in Tracy Mr. Heine opened a line of shoes in connection with his trade, and later he added other lines to the shoe stock. He has little by little built up a very successful mercantile trade in shoes, gent's furnishings, stationery, periodicals, etc.

Our subject was married at Tomah, Wisconsin, to Miss Pauline Hoffman, July 3, 1881. Five children have been born to this union. The eldest son, Adolph, died March 5, 1903. The living children are George, who is with his father in the store; Edward, of Snohomish, Washington; Walter, a high school student; and Louise. Mrs. Heine is a native of Germany and came to this country when a girl, locating with her parents at Tomah, Wisconsin.

ANDREW E. GREEN (1893) is the cashier of the State Bank of Florence. He was born in Murray county, Minnesota, on September 26, 1873, on his father's old homestead. He is a son of C. F. and Maria (Stina) Green, both natives of Sweden. They came to the United States in 1869 and homesteaded land in Murray county. They remained there until 1895, when they moved to Florence, where they now reside. They still own the old homestead and the northeast quarter of section 29, Shelburne township, which they took as a tree claim in the early seventies.

Our subject grew to manhood in Murray county and after receiving his common school education attended the Sioux Falls Business College. In 1893 he came to Lyon county and located in Florence, where he entered the employ of the Inter-State Grain Company as grain buyer. He continued with that firm until 1896, when he entered the employ of the Northwestern Grain Company in the same capacity. He remained with the latter company until 1905, and then conducted a general store in Florence until 1907. In the latter year, in company with S. A. Christianson, of Hills, Minnesota, he organized the State Bank of Florence and has since been its cashier.

The State Bank of Florence was established June 1, 1908, and began business August 11, following. The bank was capitalized for \$10,000 with the following officers: President, S. A. Christianson; vice president, M. O. Gorseth; cashier, A. E. Green; assistant cashier, H. H. Benson. The only change made in the officers since that date has been in the presidency, S. A. Christianson's brother, Peter, succeeding him as president. The above named men, together with S. A. Christianson, H. P. Sanden, Ed. Anderson and A. B. Larson, constitute the board of directors. They do a general banking and insurance business. The building which houses the institution was built the year the bank was opened.

The subject of this review is a member of the Swedish Lutheran church. He is a member of the Commandery of the Masonic lodge and also belongs to the Workmen order. Mr. Green has been clerk of school district No. 78 for a number of years and has held the office of justice of the peace.

On August 15, 1896, occurred the marriage of Mr. Green to Annie Johnson at Balaton. Mrs. Green is a native of Sweden. They are the parents of the following children: Alvin F., Harold G., Wallace V., Glen G. and Kenneth V.

MRS. JERDINE LOE (1886), widow of John Loe, owns and farms the northwest quarter of section 3, Lucas township. She was formerly Jerdine Eikeland and was born in Sokhendal, Norway, December 7, 1869. Her parents, Jacob and Bertine

(Larson) Eikeland, were the owners of a small farm in the old country.

Her father died when she was ten or eleven years of age, and in 1886 she crossed the water with her mother, two sisters and a brother, the family establishing a home west of Cottonwood. Miss Eikeland was married to John Loe October 8, 1888. He was born in Norway September 30, 1862, a son of Ole and Eline Loe, both of whom are buried in the old country. He came to the United States and Lyon county in 1885, bought the farm now conducted by his widow, and resided there until his death in 1907. He improved the farm and made it one of the fine homes of the township. With the assistance of her children, Mrs. Loe has managed the farm since her husband's death.

To Mr. and Mrs. Loe were born the following named ten children: Emelie B., Hannah (Mrs. Albert Cole), Benjamin, Hilda L., Clara (deceased), Ella, Edwin, Joseph G. and Judith C. All the children except the married daughter reside at home. The family are members of the Norwegian Lutheran church.

CHRIST JOHNSON (1892) is the owner of 240 acres of land on section 25, Lyons township, and is one of the prosperous farmers of the precinct. He has lived in the county twenty years.

Mr. Johnson was born in Denmark February 24, 1871, the son of Jens and Margaretta (Anderson) Olson. When eighteen years of age he came to America with his brother, Andrew, worked in a stone quarry at Joliet, Illinois, one year and then became a resident of Lemont, Illinois. He spent two years working on the Chicago drainage canal and in 1892 came to Lyon county.

Upon his arrival Mr. Johnson bought an eighty-acre farm on section 31, Sodus, farmed it four years, and then traded for a 160-acre farm on section 25, Lyons, where he has since lived. Later he bought another eighty acres adjoining and now has a fine farm of 240 acres. Mr. Johnson has served three years as a member of the Township Board of Supervisors.

The marriage of Mr. Johnson to Margaret M. Neill occurred in Sodus township

on July 29, 1897. Mrs. Johnson was born in Sodus township on April 9, 1874, and is the daughter of Hugh and Elizabeth (Marshall) Neill, of Marshall. Mr. and Mrs. Johnson have three children: Vera M., born February 18, 1900; Dwight N., born September 12, 1903; Alice H., born March 6, 1905.

EDGAR W. SHAVER (1877), who with his son conducts the Enterprise Wood Yard and Feed Mill at Marshall, is a pioneer settler of the county and one of its enterprising citizens. His parents were Almond and Sinah (Roberts) Shaver, both of whom were born in Canada. The father went to California in the fifties during the gold excitement, and in 1860 the family located in Wisconsin. Almond Shaver served a four years' enlistment in the Union Army with a Wisconsin regiment during the Civil War. He became a land owner in Jackson county, Wisconsin, and there he and his wife both died, the former at the age of eighty-seven years and the latter aged seventy-five years.

To those parents Edgar W. Shaver was born in Wayne county, Ohio, November 16, 1850. When a child he accompanied the family to Canada, but in 1860 a return to the United States was made and a home established in Jackson county, Wisconsin. There young Shaver grew to manhood and there he resided until he came to Lyon county in 1878.

Our subject was one of a party of men who in 1877 drove from Wisconsin to Lyon county. He spent that season in the county, being employed in breaking prairie land on a tree claim owned by E. B. Jewett. Mr. Shaver returned to his old home but came back again the next spring to become a permanent resident. Upon his arrival his earthly possessions consisted of fifteen cents, a yoke of oxen and a span of horses, and he owed for the horses. He borrowed twenty dollars and sent for his wife. He went to work with a will and he has made a record worthy of emulation.

Mr. Shaver's first home was in Fairview township. Two years after his arrival he bought the Minor Atherton homestead, the northwest quarter of section 32, and farmed the place four years. He then traded for

land on sections 22 and 26, Clifton township, and resided there until February, 1911. He erected all the buildings on the farm and made many improvements. He now rents out his 240 acre farm. Upon his removal to Marshall in 1911 Mr. Shaver bought of C. M. Hauks the Enterprise Wood and Coal Yards, consisting of four lots, feed mill, barn and wood yard, and he has since conducted the business in partnership with his son, Vern C.

The marriage of Mr. Shaver to Emma C. Frank occurred in Jackson county, Wisconsin, in April, 1875. Mrs. Shaver was born in the county in which she was married. Seven children have blessed this union, as follows: Clarence, Nettie (Mrs. William Watson), of Amiret; Minnie (Mrs. Clarence Twogood), of Lyon county; Vern C., of Marshall; Gertie (Mrs. William Smith), who resides on the Clifton township farm; Nellie and Ethel.

Mr. Shaver has been a member of the Masonic lodge for the past forty-one years, having joined the order at Humbird, Wisconsin, in February, 1871. Mr. Shaver is one in a family of two children. His sister, Bertha, who is twenty years his junior, resides on the old homestead in Jackson county, Wisconsin.

OSCAR H. BURCKHARDT (1893). One of the enterprising young farmers of Coon Creek township is Oscar Burckhardt, a graduate of the Marshall High School and the Sioux Falls Business College. He is a native of Illinois and was born at Florence Station, Stephenson county, on May 9, 1890, a son of John and Albertina (Watzke) Burckhardt, early settlers of Lyon county.

The father was one of the most prosperous farmers in the county and also one of its largest land holders. He passed away on March 15, 1909, and with his death Lyon county lost one of its best citizens, one who did nobly his part in the upbuilding of the agricultural district. To Mr. and Mrs. John Burckhardt were born the following children: John, Alfred, Charles, Henry J., Oscar, Mrs. F. J. Heinrichs, Mrs. H. Seibert, all of Lyon county; and Mrs. Annie Sullivan, of Matlock, Iowa. Mrs. Burckhardt resides on the home place

near the village of Russell, and it is with her that the subject of this sketch lives. Mr. Burckhardt, Sr., served two years in the Civil War and received an honorable discharge.

The young man whose name heads this sketch accompanied his parents to Lyon county when he was only four years of age. He attended school in district No. 63, in the Russell schools, and later in the Marshall High School two years. He also attended the Sioux Falls Business College. After finishing his course at the college Oscar worked for some time for the Tuthill Lumber Company, at Sioux Falls, as bookkeeper. After his father's death he returned home and has since had charge of the home farm. He is the owner of the southeast quarter of section 26, Coon Creek township, and farms 340 acres in addition to that. He raises considerable stock, including Duroc-Jersey hogs and Holstein cattle. He is a member of the German Lutheran church. Mr. Burckhardt is unmarried. He is a successful farmer and stock raiser.

DR. ANTON G. SANDERSON (1883) is a physician and surgeon of Minneota, where he was born February 1, 1883. He is a son of the late Dr. Samuel Sanderson, a pioneer physician of Lyon county. The father settled at Minneota in the spring of 1881 and died at Madison, Wisconsin, February 5, 1909. There are five children in the family still living: Dr. E. T. Sanderson, of Minneota; Fred, of Madison, Wisconsin; Theresa, a trained nurse of Madison; Anton G., of this sketch, and Melville, a student.

Anton grew to manhood and received his early education in Minneota. After finishing school he went to Madison, Wisconsin, and worked for a lumber company two years. He then spent two years with the Rogers Lumber Company at Velva and Kenmare, North Dakota. In 1904 Mr. Sanderson went to Chicago and attended the Bennett Medical College, from which he was graduated in 1908. After his graduation, Dr. Sanderson lived one year in Minneota, after which he was on the medical staff of the St. Peter insane asylum. He continued in the latter capacity six months and then went to Ruth-ton, where he practised until November, 1910. On the latter date he again took up

his residence in Minneota and has practised there since with his brother, Dr. E. T. Sanderson.

The subject of this sketch is a member of the A. F. & A. M., I. O. O. F. and M. W. A. lodges. He also holds membership in the T. A. E., a medical fraternity, and in the Illinois State Medical Association.

Dr. Sanderson was married at Ruthton November 18, 1910, to Ida Heacock, a native of Kingsley, Iowa. They are the parents of one child, Donald.

MARVIN E. MATHEWS (1876), a Marshall attorney-at-law, is a pioneer of Minnesota and of Lyon county. He has lived in Minnesota nearly sixty years and in Marshall thirty-six years. He is a man of prominence in his profession, but of a retiring, modest disposition, adverse to notoriety. He is richly entitled to biographical mention in this History of Lyon County, being a representative man and an eminent member of the bar of Southwestern Minnesota. Not only in the law is he prominent, but also in business and social circles.

Mr. Mathews descends from one of the old American families. His paternal grandparents were Caleb and Margaret (Van Salisbury) Mathews, natives, respectively, of Vermont and Pennsylvania. The former died near Jamestown, New York, at the age of eighty years; the latter died at the age of seventy-five years. The parents of our subject were Joseph V. and Clarissa (Chipman) Mathews. Joseph V. Mathews was born at Albany, New York, and at the age of five years accompanied his parents to Gary, New York. He located in Rochester, Minnesota, in 1854, took government land in Murray county in 1872, and died in that county. The mother of our subject was born at Jamestown, New York, and was a daughter of James Chipman. She also died in Murray county. There were six children in this family, as follows: James W., of Tracy; Charles, of Minneapolis; Edward, of Duluth; Ellen J. Endersbe (deceased) and Sidney (deceased).

M. E. Mathews was born at Jamestown, New York, September 25, 1849. He accompanied the family when it moved to Rochester, Minnesota, in 1854 and he has ever since been a resident of this state. He spent his

boyhood days on a farm near Rochester. At that time Southeastern Minnesota was very thinly settled, the country being marked only occasionally by the log cabins of settlers, the advance guard of civilization. For the most part the country was occupied by Indians and wild animals. There were no school laws, teachers or schools when the Mathews family made their home in this western country and it was several years before a school was established in the vicinity. When one was finally established instruction was given only a few months of the year, held in some claim shanty and supported by subscription. In the school which our subject first attended the shanty was supplied with seats and desks made by splitting logs into slabs and placing them on logs driven into the ground; the school room had no floor except that provided by nature and it was heated by an open fireplace built of stone. No certificate or qualification and but little education was required of the teacher. Reading, writing, spelling, geography and arithmetic were the branches taught, and those desiring further education were obliged to obtain it by their own unaided exertions. Mr. Mathews studied grammar and other branches while working in the fields and soon made the contents of such volumes his own, and he is now a master of the English language.

After completing the course provided by the country school Mr. Mathews continued his studies in the Rochester High School, which had then been established. From the age of seventeen years he made his own way in the world. He worked as a farm hand and chopped wood in the forests during the winter months and later taught a country school. For a time he studied law in the office of R. A. Jones, at Rochester, and in 1872 he moved to New Ulm and taught in the high school. While thus engaged he continued his law studies in the office of George W. Kuhlman until the fall of 1873. From that time until he located in Marshall in 1876 he practised his profession at New Ulm.

From 1876 until the present date Mr. Mathews has engaged in practice in Marshall. He took a course in the Law Department of the University of Michigan and was graduated with the class of 1881. He has become one of the leading attorneys of the state and has been connected with much



M. E. MATHEWS

Who Has Practised Law in Marshall Since  
1876.



MRS. M. E. MATHEWS



THE MATHEWS HOME IN MARSHALL



important litigation in this section of the state.

Mr. Mathews has been a life-long Democrat, a recognized leader in politics, and prominently identified with several Democratic organizations of the state. He has served as mayor of Marshall, county attorney, and was receiver of the United States Land Office at Marshall during President Cleveland's second administration. He was a candidate for the office of judge of the district court, but was defeated by the present incumbent, Hon. I. M. Olsen.

In many fraternal orders Mr. Mathews holds membership, among them the Council, Consistory, Mystic Shrine and Eastern Star of the Masonic orders, the Knights of Pythias, Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Modern Woodmen of America.

Mr. Mathews was married at New Ulm, Minnesota, on August 21, 1875, to Minnie Boesch, a native of Brown county and a daughter of Werner Boesch. To them were born four children, named as follows: Werner B., born February 17, 1878, died April 14, 1896; Logan B., born March 31, 1880, died March 27, 1891; Sidonia A. (Mrs. Howard Harmon), of Marshall, born June 16, 1887; Rolland M., born January 6, 1889. Mr. Mathews and his wife are great lovers of children and have done much for a number of them in Lyon county, having assisted them in their schooling and getting a start in life. Besides their own they have two adopted children which they brought up from infancy. They are Arloine, at one time a leading nurse in Rest Hospital, Minneapolis, now the wife of Garfield Jaeger and a resident of Spokane, Washington, and Joseph P. Mathews, a student at the University of Minnesota. They are the daughter and son of Edward Mathews, a brother residing at Duluth, Minnesota.

PETER P. SLETTE (1888), of Lucas township, was born in Gubransdalen, Norway, February 29, 1874, and is a son of Peder and Sarah (Bergum) Slette. The former now resides in Lucas township; the latter died in Norway.

The elder Slette came to America in 1886 and settled in Lucas township, where he engaged in farming. The subject of this sketch attended the common schools of his

native land until fourteen years of age, and two years after his father came to America the boy followed. He came to Lyon county and until 1900 worked out for various men at farm labor, most of the time in Lucas township.

In 1900 Peter returned to the Fatherland, where he remained about two years, and two years later once more came to America and resumed farming in Lucas township. He is at present farming 200 acres of rented land on section 16.

The ceremony which united Peter P. Slette and Tolvine Sandbo in the holy bonds of matrimony was performed at Cottonwood December 4, 1903. She is a native of Norway and was born August 1, 1884. Mr. and Mrs. Slette are the parents of the following children: Malfrid, born June 4, 1905; Sarah, born October 3, 1906; and Valborg, born February 26, 1909. The Slette family belong to the United Norwegian Lutheran church of Cottonwood.

ELMER E. FOSTER (1878), police officer of Marshall, is a native Minnesotan and a son of pioneers of Lyon county.

Charles S. Foster, his father, was born in Erie, Pennsylvania, July 22, 1828. There he spent his boyhood days and resided until twenty-six years of age. He was married in 1854 to Sarah J. Roberts, who was born in Butler county, Pennsylvania, May 30, 1837. After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Charles S. Foster moved to Elgin, Illinois, resided there until 1865, and then located in the township of Elgin, Wabasha county, Minnesota. On a farm in that township they lived until 1873.

In the year last mentioned the family came to Lyon county, purchased the northwest quarter of section 9, Lynd township, and resided thereon eighteen years. The parents then bought a home in Marshall and resided in the county seat until their deaths. Mrs. Foster passed away September 3, 1900. Thereafter Mr. Foster made his home with his children until his death on May 8, 1909, at the age of eighty-one years.

There were twelve children in the family, of whom the following named six are living: Mary A., the wife of James A. Harris, of Lynd township; Lester F. and Ulysses G., of Lynd township; Elmer E., of Marshall;

Oleanna R., the wife of Henry E. Wilson, of Redwood county; and James S., of Raymond, South Dakota.

Elmer E. Foster was born in Elgin township, Wabasha county, Minnesota, November 3, 1866, and he lived there on a farm with his parents until the fall of 1878. He came with the family to Lyon county at that time and until the fall of 1890 lived on the home farm in Lynd township. Then he rented section 36, Grandview township, and farmed it one year. Mr. Foster was married November 25, 1891, to Annie S. Kiel, daughter of M. C. Kiel. She was born in Faribault county, Minnesota, June 6, 1873.

After his marriage Mr. Foster bought the north half of the north half of section 36, Lynd township, and conducted the farm nine years. Then he purchased the home farm of his father and operated the place six years. At the end of that time Mr. Foster was appointed deputy sheriff of Lyon county and served four years and four months under Sheriff Grannan, until May 1, 1911. In the latter part of June of the same year he was appointed to the police force of Marshall.

Mr. Foster has held other local offices. For nine years he was assessor of Lynd township and he was also clerk of his school district. He is a member of the M. W. A. lodge of Lynd and of the Blue Lodge and Chapter of the Masonic order at Marshall.

Mr. and Mrs. Foster have five children, as follows: Ethel A., born September 14, 1894; Veo G., born June 25, 1898; Lloyd E., born January 27, 1903; Maxwell R., born July 14, 1905; Prudence M., born June 20, 1911.

HENRY A. MATTHEWS (1883) is a farmer and land owner who resides in Lynd township. He is a native of Germany and was born near Breslau on November 4, 1846, the son of Joseph and Hedwig (Jopech) Matthews, both of whom died in 1854 when Henry was a boy. It was in the land of his nativity that Henry received his early education. Until he was twenty-one years of age he was employed as an engineer.

When twenty-one years of age Henry Matthews came to America and worked in New York, Connecticut, Wisconsin and Mississippi. After a residence of one year in Clayborn county, Mississippi, he moved to

Cincinnati, Ohio, where he remained eight years in the employ of a florist. He then went to Chicago, where he had charge of the Dearborn Avenue Conservatory.

In 1883 our subject immigrated to Lyon county and built a hut on the farm he now operates, which he purchased from the Northwestern Railroad Company. He is at present the owner of four hundred acres of fine land in Lynd township. Mr. Matthews is a member of the German Lutheran church, is a stockholder of the Farmers Elevator Company of Lynd and has been on the board of school district No. 38 for several years. Besides farming, he raises a great deal of stock.

In 1880 Mr. Matthews was united in marriage to Annie Fritsch, a native of Germany. Mrs. Matthews died July 1, 1898. They were the parents of the following named children: Annie (Mrs. Frank Mellenthen), Hedwig, George, Fred, Henry, Karl, Mary, Helen, Sophia, Laura.

EDMOND VAN MOER (1891) is one of Amiret township's successful farmers and lives on the southwest quarter of section 8. He conducts a 200-acre farm and has a fine, well-improved place.

Mr. Van Moer is a Hollander and is a son of Joseph and Pauline (Pielaet) Van Moer, both of whom died in their native land. Edmond was born January 28, 1870, and was brought up and educated in his native land. At quite an early age he commenced to work out at farm labor in Holland, and in the spring of 1891 the young man came to America.

Upon his arrival to the United States, Mr. Van Moer located in Lyon county and worked out at farm labor near Ghent several months. He farmed rented land in Amiret township ten years, after which he purchased the north half of section 17 in company with his two brothers, John and August, and the three boys ran the farm four years. Edmond then purchased the land where he now resides, and he has today a farm well improved with substantial buildings. In addition to his general farming he engages successfully in stock raising.

Mr. Van Moer is a progressive citizen and is interested in other enterprises besides farming, being a stockholder in the Amiret

State Bank and the Lyon County Agricultural Society. He is also a shareholder and treasurer of the Amiret-Marshall Rural Telephone Company. Our subject was justice of the peace two years and has been a member of the Board of Supervisors the past five years, being its present chairman. He was road overseer five years.

May 27, 1905, occurred the marriage of Edmond Van Moer and Florence Loke, a native of Lyon county. She was born March 26, 1885, and is a daughter of Franz and Mary (Vander Kerkhoven) Loke, natives of Holland and for the last few years residents of Clifton township, Lyon county. To Mr. and Mrs. Van Moer five children have been born, their names being Elsie M., Ida P., Bertha C., George E. and Victor Joseph. The Van Moers are members of the Catholic church.

ABSALOM LLOYD WRIGHT (1883), who owns and farms the southwest quarter of section 20, Rock Lake township, has lived in Lyon county nearly thirty years. He has met with success in his ventures, has taken an active part in the affairs of his community, and is rated high among the men of his precinct.

Mr. Wright is a Virginian by birth and first saw the light of day November 10, 1861. Andrew Wright, his father, was born in Virginia, served in the army during the Civil War, and lost his life in the sectional struggle. Dorothy (Davis) Wright, his mother, died in 1874.

Our subject spent his boyhood days in his native state, attending school and working out as a farm hand. He came to Lyon county in the fall of 1883 and this county has ever since been his residence. He worked out four years and then started in business for himself, renting land and farming in Sodus township three years. He next farmed rented land in Rock Lake township six years and then took up his residence on his present farm, which he had purchased six years before.

Mr. Wright served one year as clerk of Rock Lake township and he has been assessor for the past two years. For seventeen years he has been a member of the school board of district No. 18—thirteen years as a director and the last four years as treas-

urer. He has stock in the Farmers Elevator Company of Balaton.

Eliza A. Ford became the wife of Mr. Wright November 24, 1887. She was born in Wisconsin May 8, 1865, and is a daughter of Henry and Margaret (Marshall) Ford, pioneers and still residents of Sodus township. Mr. and Mrs. Wright have two children: Margaret, born December 7, 1888, and Clarence, born January 6, 1894.

HENRY O. HANSON (1881) is the manager of the Farmers & Merchants Supply Company of Minneota and has resided in Lyon county for the past thirty years. The company by which he is employed was established in 1894 and has the following officers: President, Gilbert Hammer; treasurer, H. A. Tillemans; secretary, K. E. Kjørness; manager, H. O. Hanson. They handle grain, coal and twine. Henry was born in Dane county, Wisconsin, June 20, 1859, a son of Ole and Jane (Peterson) Hanson, natives of Norway who came to Dane county in the days of the early Norwegian settlements of that state. They are both dead.

In 1879 the subject of this review immigrated to Hancock, Stevens county, Minnesota, where he resided until 1881, when he moved to Minneota—his future home. He was engaged in the hardware and implement business until 1885, then in the butcher business, and still later in the livery business until 1895, when he accepted the position he now holds.

Mr. Hanson was married in Minneota to Annie Werpe, a native of Iowa. They are the parents of eight children, as follows: Clara, Ella, Marvin, Chester, Edgar, Milton, Klenora and Milo.

Mr. Hanson has served several terms on the Village Council of Minneota. He is a member of the M. W. A. and Maccabee lodges.

KNUTE SKAAR (1892) is a farmer and blooded stock raiser of Nordland township and a resident of Lyon county of twenty years' standing. His home place is the south half of the southeast quarter of section 4, a short distance from Minneota, and he also owns the east half of the northwest quarter of section 9, adjoining.

Knute Skaar was born in Vallers, Norway, September 27, 1884. His parents, Ole and Carrie Skaar, died when he was a child, and in 1892 he came to America with his sister, Barbara Skaar. He came to Lyon county and made his home with an uncle, Knud Dovre, in Eidsvold township. His boyhood days were spent attending the district school and assisting his uncle on the farm. He remained on the Dovre farm until the fall of 1908. The next fall he purchased eighty acres of his present farm and started in business for himself. The next year he became the owner of the other eighty acres of his farm.

Mr. Skaar specializes on stock, raising thoroughbred Duroc-Jersey swine. He exhibited his registered hogs at the Lyon county fair in 1911 and received two first prizes and one sweepstake. Mr. Skaar has stock in the Farmers Elevator Company of Minneota. He is a member of the Norwegian Lutheran church of Minneota and of the Masonic, Odd Fellows and Yeomen lodges of the same village.

Emma Hanson, who was born in Lyon county April 9, 1887, became the wife of Mr. Skaar June 2, 1910, the ceremony being performed at Minneota. Her parents, Robert and Ellen (Klaith) Hanson, were pioneer residents of Nordland township and are now deceased. Mrs. Skaar is one of five children, the others being Mrs. Knute K. Mohn, of Nordland township; Peter, deceased; Carl, of Minneota; and Christine, of Nordland township.

**WILLIAM F. GIESEKE** (1892) is president of the Marshall Milling Company and at the head of one of Lyon county's largest business enterprises. He has been a resident of Marshall twenty years and is rated among the substantial men of Lyon county.

William Gieseke, the father of the subject of this review, was born in Hanover, Germany, in September, 1831. He came to the United States when seventeen years of age and a few years later sent to the old country for the rest of the family. In 1861 he located in New Ulm and that was his home for the next twenty-two years. During his residence there he served nine years as sheriff of Brown county.

In 1883 William Gieseke, Sr., located in

Sleepy Eye, and the next year he and others founded the Sleepy Eye Milling Company. He was president of the company many years and its guiding spirit. He became interested in the mill at Marshall in 1892 and became a resident of the city. He moved to Los Angeles, California, in 1901, and died there February 23, 1905. Matilda (Roternund) Gieseke, the mother of our subject, was born in Addison, Illinois, and now makes her home in Los Angeles.

In the Gieseke family are five children, as follows: William F., Lydia (Mrs. F. J. McIntyre), of Madison, South Dakota; Margaret (Mrs. Carl A. Plath), of Hood River, Oregon; Hugo H., who is bookkeeper and cashier of the Marshall Milling Company; and Blanche (Mrs. Paul Wagner), of Los Angeles, California.

William F. Gieseke was born in New Ulm, Minnesota, March 5, 1869, and spent his boyhood days there. He was educated in the common schools and in Shattuck College, of Faribault, Minnesota, having been graduated from the last named institution in 1888. After his school days Mr. Gieseke entered the office of the Sleepy Eye Milling Company and was with the company in Sleepy Eye until May 2, 1892. On that date he located in Marshall to take charge of the company's mill there. He became an officer of the Marshall Milling Company upon its organization a little later and is now the president of the company.

In the city of Marshall, on June 11, 1894, Mr. Gieseke was united in marriage to Ethel R. Paige. Gordon W. Gieseke is their only child.

**LOUIS N. REGNIER** (1883), a well-to-do farmer of Grandview township, was born in Kankakee county, Illinois, August 15, 1858. He was brought up on the Illinois farm and in 1883 he accompanied his brother George to Lyon county. Louis bought 160 acres of railroad land on section 23, Grandview, and started farming. He improved the farm and in 1902 he bought the southwest quarter of section 24 in the same township, which is known as the James English tree claim. Mr. Regnier has done well since coming to the county and now farms 280 acres of his own and 185 acres, which he rents. He is ably assisted in the farm work by his sons.

The parents of our subject were Isaac and Mary (Tonscheke) Regnier, natives of Canada. They were early settlers of Kankakee county, Illinois, locating there at a time when Chicago was a mere hamlet. Coming to Lyon county in 1884, they located in Grandview township, where Mr. Regnier died in 1896. Mrs. Regnier is living with her daughter, Mrs. Gus Durrenberger, in Marshall. Besides the subject of this sketch the elder Regniers were the parents of the following children: Joseph, of Marshall; Mary (Mrs. Patrick Grant), of Kankakee; Florence (Mrs. Aime Bennett), of Kankakee; Emma (Mrs. O. Letournan), of Chicago; George, of Grandview; John, of Cottonwood; Ambrose, Harry and Louise (Mrs. Gus Durrenberger), all of Marshall.

On February 20, 1884, occurred the marriage of our subject to Elizabeth Caron, a native of Kankakee. She is a daughter of Theodore Caron, one of the early settlers of the county. To this union have been born Archie, Jerry, Philip, Eugenia, Zephyre, Robert, John, Henry and Sarah, the two last named being twins.

Mr. Regnier has been a member of the school board of district No. 21 for about twenty years and is road overseer. He is a member of the Catholic church.

CHARLES MILLER (1885), who farms the north half of section 4, Stanley township, has lived in Lyon county since he was a child. He is the son of William and Hulda (Mueller) Miller. The former was born in Wisconsin August 7, 1852, and is now engaged in farming in Lake Marshall township. The mother was born August 16, 1856, and died August 25, 1895.

Charles Miller was born in Wisconsin August 19, 1879. He came to Lyon county with his parents in 1885 and until he was sixteen years of age lived with them and attended school. He was handy with machinery and when only fourteen years of age began to work with engines. Two years later he was granted an engineer's license and became the youngest man in Minnesota to hold such license. During the next ten years he operated engines exclusively. Then he began farming and has been so engaged ever since.

The marriage of our subject to Minnie

Apfel occurred April 6, 1901, at Evansville, Wisconsin. Mrs. Miller's parents, H. Apfel and Fredericka Apfel, reside in Wisconsin. To Mr. and Mrs. Miller have been born the following named five children: Jeanette, Violet, Melvin, Hazel and Hal.

ARTHUR H. ROWLAND (1881), postmaster of Tracy, has spent all except the first few years of his life in that city. He was born in Janesville, Wisconsin, April 5, 1874, and on January 11, 1881, he accompanied the family to Tracy. With the exception of the winter of 1881-82, when he was in Pierre, South Dakota, Mr. Rowland has ever since made his home in Tracy.

Arthur received his education in the Tracy school. When a boy he served one year as call boy in the employ of the Northwestern Railroad Company, and then for two years he was employed by the American Express Company. In 1897 he and his father opened a grocery store, which they conducted eleven years. Mr. Rowland received the appointment of postmaster on April 1, 1908.

Mr. Rowland was city recorder six terms previous to receiving the appointment of postmaster. He has been a member of the fire department since 1892 and is the second oldest member of that organization. Fraternally Mr. Rowland affiliates with the Masonic and Workmen lodges, holding membership in both the Blue Lodge and Chapter of the former.

The father of our subject is Richard Rowland, also of Tracy. He located in that village in 1879 and for more than thirty years was a conductor of the Northwestern Line. He was the first conductor to locate at the division and his first service was in charge of a construction train. His service has been confined to the Dakota division. The mother of our subject, Harriet S. (Parker) Rowland, is deceased. She was born at Janesville, Wisconsin, and was the daughter of Captain Parker, a member of Company M, Second Wisconsin Cavalry. He died in the service at Vicksburg. A. H. Rowland has three brothers and one sister, namely: Leonard, Robert, Hattie and Harlan. The last named is deputy postmaster.

A. H. Rowland was married in Tracy September 6, 1910, to Annie Lorenz, a native of Madison, Wisconsin.

LEWIS E. SCOTT (1880), of Amiret township, is a Lyon county boy, having been born in Sodus township July 29, 1880, and having been a resident of the county since his birth.

John and Mary (Lewis) Scott, parents of our subject, came to the county in 1874 and located on a homestead in Sodus township, where they still reside. Lewis was born on the farm and grew up amid a farmer boy's environments. He attended the country school and later the village school in Amiret, and his education was completed when he was twenty-one years of age. He then worked for his father on the old homestead until October, 1905, when he engaged in farming for himself. During his Sodus residence Lewis held the office of road overseer for the township two terms.

The subject of this sketch farmed in Custer township six years, and in November, 1911, he moved to the farm he now operates, known as the Webb farm, on sections 17 and 20, Amiret township. He has since rented and farmed the place, having charge of a half section. He raises considerable stock, giving his attention to the Shorthorn and Hereford cattle and the Poland China hog.

Mr. Scott married Ada Edwards in Tracy, Minnesota, October 18, 1905. To this union were born three children: Paul, born August 24, 1907; Clarence, born December 23, 1908; and William, born June 24, 1910. Mrs. Scott is a native of Sioux City, Iowa, and is a daughter of Edward and Agnes Edwards, formerly residents of Tracy and now of Sioux City.

GEORGE F. FIFIELD (1886) has lived in Lyon county since he was eleven years of age and is a farmer and land owner of Rock Lake and Shelburne townships. He engages quite extensively in stock raising, farms 380 acres in the two townships, and owns eighty acres in Shelburne township and 160 acres in Roseau county, Minnesota.

The parents of our subject were Ira A. and Emily E. (Rueber) Fifield, natives, respectively, of New Hampshire and New York. They came to Lyon county in 1886, bought land in Lyons township, and resided on the farm there until their deaths. The father died in 1903, the mother in 1909. They were the parents of nine children, as

follows: Nellie (Mrs. William Buell), of Roseau county, Minnesota; May (Mrs. S. Goodmund), of Lyons township; Ella (Mrs. J. W. Andrews), deceased; Ann (Mrs. W. E. Magandy), of Tyler; George F., of this review; James, deceased; Charles, of Minneapolis; Walter and Elmer, of Lyons township.

The gentleman whose history we are chronicling was born in Wabasha county, Minnesota, October 10, 1875. He came to Lyon county with the family in 1886, attended district school until nineteen years of age, and worked for his father on the Lyons township farm until after reaching his majority. Then he was married and engaged in farming in Lyons township three years. He conducted a meat market in Balaton six months and then went North, to Roseau county, Minnesota. There he secured a homestead and resided two years. Upon his return to Lyon county he engaged in farming in Shelburne and Rock Lake townships and has since been so engaged. He raises Durham cattle and Poland China hogs.

Mr. Fifield has stock in the Lyon County Co-operative Company of Balaton and he has been treasurer of school district No. 60 for the past six years. He is a member and one of the trustees of the Presbyterian church of Russell and holds membership in the Workmen and Woodmen lodges of the same village.

The marriage of Mr. Fifield to Mary L. Persons was solemnized in Rock Lake township June 28, 1899. She was born in the township in which she was married August 19, 1879. Her parents, Orville E. and Ella (Weeks) Persons, were among the first settlers of Rock Lake township and resided on their homestead until 1905. Then they moved to Clarkston, Washington, where they now live.

Six children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Fifield, of whom four are living. Their names and dates of births are as follows: Arthur R., born November 24, 1901; Elsie, deceased, born November 6, 1902; Harold G., born April 12, 1906; Addie, deceased, born April 11, 1908; Beatrice, born January 23, 1910; Ethel, born June 13, 1912.

PAUL GITS (1883) is the proprietor of a blacksmith and wagon shop in the city

of Marshall. He is a native of Belgium, was born October 13, 1864, and resided in the land of his nativity until nineteen years of age. He is a son of Francis and Louise (Corielt) Gits, who reside at Ghent. The other children in the family are Paul, Julius, Joseph, Victor, Clement (Mrs. Charles Foulon), of Ghent; Edmund, of Ghent, and Arthur, of St. Paul.

Paul Gits learned the blacksmith's trade from his father, whose father and grandfather had also been in the same business. In 1883 the Gits family immigrated to the United States and located at Minneota, where they resided a few months and then moved to Ghent. At that place Francis Gits opened a blacksmith shop, and our subject worked in the place for a while, after which he went to Faribault and engaged in his trade two years. He then returned to Ghent and started a shop which he conducted until 1894, when he sold out and moved to Marshall, where he has since resided. Upon his arrival to Marshall Mr. Gits entered into partnership with Gustav Vergote, and started a blacksmith shop and a saloon. They built the Klondike saloon building and were in partnership two years, when they dissolved and our subject purchased his present place of business. Mr. Gits is a member of the Catholic church, the Catholic Order of Foresters and the Knights of Columbus lodges.

Mr. Gits was married at Ghent May 12, 1887, to Judith Vanhee, a native of Belgium. They are the parents of eighteen children, fourteen of whom are living. They are as follows: Albert, Mary, Ida, Julius, Louis, Edmund, Victor, Lucy, Louise, Gustav, Celia, Victoria, Julian and Margaret.

OLE S. DAHL (1892) owns 160 acres of farm land on section 35, Lucas township, and in addition farms 320 acres of rented land on section 25. He is one of the successful farmers and stock raisers of the township.

Oxendal, Norway, is the birthplace of our subject and the date of his birth was May 28, 1874. His father, Sigbjorn Dahl, died at the age of ninety years, and his mother, Anna (Jodestal) Dahl, is living in Norway at the age of eighty years. Ole received his education in Norway and attended school until fourteen years old, after which he worked out at farm labor until 1892. In

the latter year he came to America and located first at Cottonwood, Minnesota, near which village he worked for some months. Then he went to Superior, Wisconsin, where he worked the following summer, and then returned to Lyon county.

The next four years found young Dahl working at farm labor in Blue Earth county, Minnesota, in Winnebago county, Iowa, and in Yellow Medicine county, Minnesota. At the end of that period he took up his permanent residence in Lucas township, where he has since resided. He has been active in the affairs of the township and served one year as road overseer. Mr. Dahl's church affiliations are with the Norwegian Lutheran denomination. He is a member of that church in Cottonwood and has been a trustee for several years.

On June 16, 1901, Ole Dahl was joined in marriage to Josephine Johnson, the wedding taking place at Cottonwood. His wife is a native of the township and was born December 28, 1877, a daughter of Joe and Martha Johnson, pioneer settlers of Lyon county. The father died in 1909; the mother lives on the farm in Lucas township. Mr. and Mrs. Dahl are the parents of the following children: Sam Oliver, born January 22, 1903; Anna Marie, born June 8, 1905; Stella Amanda, born June 9, 1910; and Norman Nordahl, born March 17, 1912.

DE ALTON PROUTY (1887) is a farmer and stock raiser of Amiret township and owns 240 acres on the north half of section 25, Amiret township. He raises Polled Angus cattle and Poland China hogs and buys and ships stock. He makes a specialty of sheep.

Mr. Prouty was born in Fond du Lac county, Wisconsin, May 11, 1869, and is a son of Fosdick and Catharine (Blanchard) Prouty, natives of Vermont and New York, respectively. The parents moved to Wisconsin in the early days, about 1845, and were farmers. De Alton was brought up in the county of his birth and his earlier education was gained in the country school and in the high school in Brandon.

The family moved to Minnesota in the eighties and bought the west half of the southwest quarter of section 25, Amiret township. The subject of this sketch

came to Minnesota and entered the state university, where he took a two years' course, and later he took a six months' course in the Curtiss Business College of Minneapolis. Mr. Prouty then returned to Lyon county and taught school here and in Redwood county during the next ten years. It was in 1890 that he bought the northeast quarter of section 25, Amiret township, part of his present holdings, and the next year he made his home in Tracy. He then went to live on his mother's farm on section 25 and conducted both places and taught school until 1902. In that year he was married and since then has been farming his present place, but still makes his residence on his mother's farm.

Mr. Prouty was married at Marshall to Vera L. Leavitt, the wedding taking place March 21, 1902. Mrs. Prouty is a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Leavitt and was born in Redwood county in April, 1881. Her parents live in Ashland, Oregon. Mr. and Mrs. Prouty are the parents of five children, Catharine, Alice, Ethel, Charles H. and D. Alton.

Mr. Prouty served one term as a member of the town board and one term as treasurer of school district No. 36. Fraternally he is allied with the Modern Woodmen and I. O. O. F. lodges.

EVAN C. JONES, JR. (1879), hardware dealer and undertaker of Russell, has grown to manhood in Lyon county, having lived here since he was eight years of age. He is a son of E. C. Jones, Sr., and Catherine (Goodman) Jones, an account of whose lives is found elsewhere in this volume.

Our subject was born in Rutland county, Vermont, May 1, 1871, and eight years later he accompanied the family to Lyon county. He grew up on his father's homestead on section 8, Lyons township, attended the district school two miles from home, and spent his boyhood days herding cattle on the prairies. When he became of age his father gave him an eighty-acre farm, and thereafter he engaged in farming on his own account, making his home with his parents. He bought the home place in 1900 and farmed it until moving to Russell in the spring of 1904. He bought the Purdy stock of hardware and implements and has since

carried on that business, dealing in real estate also to some extent.

During his residence in Lyons township Mr. Jones served four years as chairman of the Board of Supervisors and for twelve years was clerk of his school district. He is a member of the Masonic lodge and is secretary of Coteau Lodge No. 244 of Russell.

Mr. Jones was married in Rock Lake township September 21, 1910, to Emma Goltz. She was born in the precinct in which she was married and is the daughter of Gottlieb Goltz, one of the early settlers of Rock Lake.

MRS. LUDOVICA H. ENGELS (1883), of Westerheim township, is the widow of Vincentius Engels. She is an early settler of Lyon county and the largest real estate owner of her precinct.

Mrs. Engels was born in Groede, Holland, October 21, 1859. She married Mr. Engels in 1880 and the day after their marriage they sailed for America. Their first home was in Henry county, Illinois, where they engaged in farming three and one-half years. They came to Lyon county in 1883 and bought the northwest quarter of section 26, Westerheim township, then bare of improvements. Today the farm is one of the best improved in the vicinity and with additions purchased later is the largest farm in the township.

Mr. Engels prospered exceedingly and before his death was the owner of 1160 acres of Lyon county soil, 920 acres in Westerheim and 240 in Fairview. He became one of the big farmers and substantial men of the township and was prominent in local affairs. He was one of the organizers of school district No. 44, gave the land upon which the school house is located, and was treasurer of the district until his death. He served as a member of the Board of Supervisors of Westerheim and was later township treasurer. He was a stockholder and a director of the Ghent State Bank.

Vincentius Engels was born in Caprycke, Belgium, July 26, 1850, one of a family of twelve children born to Dominico and Johanna C. (Van Hyfte) Engels. Only two of the children are now living: Frank, of Illinois, and John, of Belgium. Mr. Engels came to America in 1880 and to Lyon county

in 1883. He died at Eecloo, Belgium, February 13, 1910, while in the old country for the benefit of his health, and he was buried in the cemetery at Ghent, Minnesota. He was a universally esteemed citizen. All good works found in him a generous helper and he was a father to the needy and the poor.

There are nine children in the Engels family, as follows: Amelia (Mrs. Mathew Hennen), of Westerheim township; Henry, who conducts his mother's farm on section 29; Levi, John and August, who assist in the management of the home farm; Elizabeth, Joseph, Aloysius and Vincent. The eldest child, August, died in Illinois at the age of eight months.

Since her husband's death Mrs. Engels, with the help of her sons, has managed the property. They have added to the farming lands until they now have 1560 acres. The family farms 880 acres of the farm and rent out the balance. They engage in stock raising extensively, feeding and shipping from three to five car loads per year. In 1912 they have 450 acres in small grain and about 200 acres in corn.

LEE SWIFT (1892) has been superintendent of the Tracy schools for the past twenty years, a record as a superintendent surpassed by only one other in Minnesota. Under his management the Tracy schools have attained a high standard of excellency.

Lee Swift was born at Cazenovia, Wisconsin, December 5, 1859. His father, Charles B. Swift, was born in Ohio and died in Wisconsin. He served throughout the War of the Rebellion, in Arkansas and Missouri, as a member of Company F, Third Wisconsin Cavalry. The mother, Caroline (Huntley) Swift, was born in Ohio and now resides at Ireton, Wisconsin.

The subject of this review received his primary education in the public schools of Cazenovia and Ireton and was graduated from Ripon College in 1886. After receiving his diploma Mr. Swift made teaching his life's profession. He taught the eighth grade of the public school of Elroy, Wisconsin, one year, was superintendent of the Hillsboro, Wisconsin, schools one year, of the Faulkton schools one year, and of the Clark, South Dakota, schools two years. Professor Swift took the superintendency of the

Tracy schools in the fall of 1892 and has ever since held the position.

In addition to his school work, Mr. Swift is the owner and manager of the Tracy City Dairy, which he has conducted for the past ten years. He is a member of the Presbyterian church and of the Masonic and Workmen lodges.

At Ireton, Wisconsin, occurred the marriage of Mr. Swift to Carrie May Blanchard. She is a daughter of Orin C. and Hannah Blanchard, and she was born in the city in which she was married. Mr. and Mrs. Swift have three children, Carrie May, Vera Blanchard and Ernest Fremont.

JOHN P. NELSON (1887) is a Shelburne township farmer who has resided in Lyon county for a quarter of a century. His parents, Nels and Aluf Parson, are both deceased. John Nelson was born October 21, 1861, in Sweden, where he attended school until fourteen years of age. He then worked out as a farm hand two years, when he went to Denmark and worked in a rope factory two years. Returning to Sweden, he worked at the carpenter's trade, which he followed until 1887.

Mr. Nelson came to the United States in the year last mentioned and located at Balaton, where he resided about eight months. Then he moved to Burchard and worked on the section four years. Next he engaged in carpenter work for four years, two years for the Marfield Elevator Company, building and repairing elevators, and two years in Lyon county. He then purchased the eighty acre farm upon which his buildings now stand, and since that time has added 240 acres to his holdings. This land was all prairie when he purchased it, and he has improved it until now he has one of the finest farms in Lyon county. He raises considerable stock, including Poland China hogs, Shorthorn cattle and Plymouth Rock chickens. He is one of the most successful farmers in Lyon county.

Mr. Nelson is a member of the Swedish Lutheran church. He holds membership in the following lodges: the Blue Lodge and Chapter of the Masonic order; the United Workmen and the Eastern Star. Mr. Nelson has been a director of school district No. 49 nine years and was road overseer in Shel-

burne township five years. He holds stock in the Florence Telephone Company, the State Bank of Florence, and the Farmers Co-operative Store Company of Balaton.

On November 28, 1886, Mr. Nelson was united in marriage to Anna Sanquist, a native of Sweden. Mrs. Nelson was born November 7, 1863, in Lunsckroom. Mr. and Mrs. Nelson are the parents of the following named children: Alfreeda, born October 3, 1887; Charles, born February 4, 1889; Emil, born April 21, 1891; Edwin, born March 9, 1893; Lawrence, born May 8, 1896. All except Charles reside at home. Alfreeda is a graduate of the Shorthand Department of the Mankato Commercial College.

Mr. Nelson has two brothers and one sister: Andrew W. Nelson, of Rock Lake township; N. P. Nelson, of Two Harbors, Minnesota; Annie, of Rutledge, Minnesota.

WILLIAM B. PENISTON (1883), of Marshall, is proprietor of Sunnyside Feed Ranch and is an extensive dealer in horses. He has built up a prosperous business and conducts one of the big institutions of Lyon county.

Mr. Peniston was born in Bermuda Islands, of English parentage, September 10, 1864. At the age of fourteen years he went to sea and led a seafaring life four years. He served as ordinary seaman, later as able seaman, and became second mate before he left the sea. For two years his service was on the George F. Seymour, which plied between the West Indies and London and back to the Bermudas, carrying English government supplies. The other years of his service were on the Eliza Bars, which carried cattle and horses from New Jersey to England for the English government.

In 1883 Mr. Peniston quit the sea and came to Lyon county. He was a perfect stranger in the county, and at the time of his arrival was possessed of only twenty-five cents. The first year he worked for Alonzo Peniston, to whom he was not related, on section 33, Grandview township. His wages were ten dollars per month, and at the end of the first year he had saved twenty dollars.

With that start Mr. Peniston began farming on a small scale. For two years he rented land in Camden, Lynd township; then he moved to Old Lynd and farmed two years.

At the end of that time he purchased the Charles Goodell farm in Lyons township, paying therefor \$10 per acre, and farmed it for a number of years. He rented the Baker farm one year and in 1901 bought his present place in Marshall—the Van Fleet farm—then known as Sunnyside Stock Farm. He has resided on the place ever since. The first year Mr. Peniston fed cattle and hogs, and since that time he has dealt in horses exclusively.

Mr. Peniston's love for horses is doubtless inherited. His father was a veterinarian and his paternal grandfather, William Peniston, was a dealer in horses. His maternal grandfather, Nicholas Hinson, was also a horseman. Our subject is the largest dealer in horses in Lyon county, buying, feeding and selling F. O. B. Marshall. He has made shipments to New York, Boston, Catskill, Chicago, Omaha, Cincinnati, Sioux City, Fargo, Duluth, Tacoma, Seattle, St. Paul and Minneapolis. He buys in Minnesota, the Dakotas and Northern Iowa.

Mr. Peniston's first shipment was made twelve years ago to the Bermuda Islands. To illustrate the increase in price: The average cost of the first load was \$50 per head; at the present time he pays from \$150 to \$350 per head. Mr. Peniston claims to have sold the highest priced car of horses that ever went out of Lyon county. In 1902 an express load of sixteen head was shipped to Seattle, the average price of which was \$365 per head. Among the number was a pair of matched roans weighing 3680 pounds. They were sold in the barn for \$900, establishing the state record.

It is Mr. Peniston's estimate that Lyon county annually sells \$100,000 worth of horses. This year his sales alone amount to \$40,000. His business is one of the important industries of the county, and he has done more to raise the standard of breeding draft horses than any other agency in the county. In 1907 he sold nine draft horses in the county, from which nearly all the best draft horses here have originated. Mr. Peniston's farm of 320 acres adjoins the city. He raises crops as well as horses.

The parents of our subject were Henry M. and Mary Jane (Hinson) Peniston, both of whom died in England. There were five children in the family, as follows: Hulbert and Ada (Mrs. Nathaniel Vesey), of the Ber-

muda Islands; William B., of this biography; Alice, of St. Paul; and Henry, deceased.

William B. Peniston was married in Marshall in 1886 to Clara Bennett, a native of New London, Wisconsin. She died in 1906 at the age of forty-five years. Four children were born to the union: Helen (Mrs. Richard Whitney), of Oregon; George, Ada and Evelyn. The second marriage of Mr. Peniston occurred January 22, 1908, when he wedded Blanch Robinson. She was born in Centerville, South Dakota, and her parents are the late William Robinson and Roselle (Golden) Robinson, who resides in Marshall.

SOLOMON JOHNSON (1894) owns the southwest quarter of section 16, Shelburne township, a short distance east of Florence. He has resided on that farm only one year, but he has been a resident of Lyon county eighteen years.

Mr. Johnson was born in Sweden September 7, 1859. After securing his education he learned the cabinet maker's trade and continued to reside in his native country until twenty years of age. He came to the United States in 1879 and his first home in the New World was at Lockport, Illinois. After a short residence there he moved to South Bend, Indiana, and for a year was employed in the Studebaker shops.

We next find Mr. Johnson in Pullman, Illinois, where for ten years he worked at his trade in the shops of the Pullman Car Company. The next three years were spent in the shops of the Wagner Car Company in Buffalo, New York, and one year in a shop in Minneapolis. Mr. Johnson gave up his trade in 1894 and turned farmer. He bought land in Coon Creek township and engaged in farming it until 1911, when he purchased and moved to his present farm.

During fifteen years of his residence in Coon Creek township Mr. Johnson was a member of the school board of district No. 56. He is a member of the Swedish Mission church and for fifteen years was superintendent of the Sunday School in Coon Creek.

Solomon Johnson is the son of J. N. and Marie (Orn) Johnson, who came from the old country in 1889. The father now resides with his son; the mother died March 6, 1912. There are five children in the family,

namely: Mary, John, Solomon, Hattie and Manda.

Mr. Johnson's first marriage occurred in Minneapolis June 24, 1884, when he wedded Hilda Swanson. She died in Buffalo, New York, December 4, 1891. Three children were born to the union: Elmer, who is deceased, Edla and Leonard. The second marriage of Mr. Johnson occurred in Marshall July 16, 1897, and his bride was Augusta Larson. They have four children, named Arnold, Winnie, Myrtle and Lilly.

KNUT LARSON (1899), of Lyons township, is a farmer and land owner. He was born in Dane county, Wisconsin, May 10, 1866. Knut received his early education in Wisconsin, where he grew to manhood. When nineteen years of age he moved to Lincoln county, South Dakota, where he purchased a quarter section of land, which he farmed until 1899, when he came to Lyon county. At that time he purchased the southeast quarter of section 32, Lyons township, where he has since resided. He raises considerable stock and has fine improvements on his place. Mr. Larson also has other interests. He is a stockholder of the Farmers Elevator Company of Russell and is treasurer of school district No. 93.

On March 27, 1887, the subject of this review was united in marriage to Ella Thompson at Lincoln, South Dakota. Mrs. Larson was born in Dane county, Wisconsin, July 30, 1861, a daughter of Falkver and Gurie Thompson, both natives of Norway. Mr. and Mrs. Larson have two children: Lula G., born April 29, 1890; Florence, born October 15, 1894.

GEORGE W. PURVES (1886) owns 115 acres of good farm land on the northeast quarter of section 9, Monroe township, and also a residence in Tracy, where he makes his home, though he gives personal attention to the management of his farm.

It was in Waukesha county, Wisconsin, that our subject first saw the light of day November 25, 1862. His father, Peter Purves, was born near Edinburgh, Scotland, and came to this country at the age of twelve years, living in Waukesha county, Wisconsin, until 1886, and following the occupation

of a farmer. He came to Lyon county in 1886 and made that his home until his death two years later. Elizabeth (Johnson) Purves, the mother of George W., was also a native of Scotland, coming to America at the age of twenty, and marrying Mr. Purves in Wisconsin. She died in 1898. Besides George W. there were four children in the family.

The first twenty-four years of our subject's life were spent in his native county in Wisconsin, during which time he received his education in the country schools and worked for his father and for the neighbors. In 1886 the young man came to Lyon county and located in Amiret township, where he bought a farm and made his home eleven years. In 1897 Mr. Purves moved to Tracy, where he has since lived, but has spent much of his time on the farm. While a resident of the township of Amiret he served as a school director and as an elder of the Amiret Presbyterian church.

Our subject married Elizabeth Mitchell September 17, 1890, in Amiret township. Mrs. Purves is a daughter of Joseph Mitchell and Sarah Mitchell, of Amiret township, and was born at Elida, Illinois, June 19, 1872, coming to Lyon county when a child. Mr. and Mrs. Purves have the following children: Ada, born June 14, 1891; Elizabeth, born July 21, 1892; Vivian, born April 5, 1901; George Harland, born November 2, 1902; and Bertram Norcross, born February 13, 1907. Mr. Purves is a member of the Presbyterian church.

GEORGE ARTHUR FITCH (1884) is the pioneer piano dealer of Tracy. He was born in Lake Sarah township, Murray county, just over the line from Tracy, on March 25, 1882. When a child two years of age he accompanied his parents to Tracy and that city has ever since been his home.

Our subject is a graduate of the Tracy High School and he completed his education with a course in Hamline University. His father engaged in the piano business in Tracy in an early day and his son grew up in that business. After reaching mature years he became a partner in the business and continued so until 1908, when the elder Fitch withdrew from the firm, since which time George has conducted the business alone. He handles pianos, organs, sewing

machines, musical merchandise, etc. His leading piano is the Busch & Gerts. He handles the Edison and Victor phonographs and records.

Mr. Fitch was married to Alma Lloyd at Mankato on June 20, 1910. She is a native of Blue Earth county and a daughter of Peter Lloyd, a well-known resident of that county and a former county treasurer. Mr. Fitch holds membership in the A. O. U. W. lodge and in the Illinois Commercial Travelers Association.

George D. and Louisa (Bach) Fitch are the parents of our subject. The former was born in Rochester, Minnesota, the latter in Wisconsin. They homesteaded land in Lake Sarah township, Murray county, in the seventies, moved to Tracy in 1884, and resided there until their removal to South Dakota in 1908. There are seven children in the family: Mrs. L. Hillman, of Livingston, Montana; George A., of this biography; Mrs. W. J. Priest, of Livingston, Montana; Caral, of Tracy; Lowell G., of Livingston, Montana, an employe of the Northern Pacific Railway Company; and Madge and Tracy, who reside with their parents.

ALDOR B. SWANSON (1896), a farmer residing in Coon Creek township, was born in Aby, Kalmarlane, Sweden, on March 2, 1871, the son of Adolph and Marie (Johanson) Swanson. The mother died some years ago; the father resides in Sweden. Aldor attended school in Sweden until fourteen years of age.

In 1892 our subject immigrated to America, locating at St. Paul, Minnesota. He attended school there for some time and the next four years were spent engaged in the following lines of work: Digging cellars and grading lots at St. Paul, working on the Soo railroad in North Dakota, working at the blacksmith's trade in Minneapolis and at the same trade on the iron range between Virginia and McKinley, Minnesota; at Wahpeton, North Dakota, as a blacksmith; working for the government at Hastings, Minnesota, taking out rock from the quarries; cutting brush along the Mississippi river for the government, in the lumber camps of Wisconsin as a blacksmith, on a government boat on the Mississippi, in the lumber camps near

Grand Rapids, Minnesota; railroading in Minnesota.

In 1896 Mr. Swanson became a resident of Lyon county and hired out to Archie Steward, who lived north of Marshall, as a blacksmith. He worked there some time and then went to Marshall, where he worked for over a year in the machine shops. Then he returned to St. Paul and went to the woods for the winter. The next summer he returned to Marshall, where he worked a short time and then moved to Russell, where he operated a blacksmith shop two and one-half years. The next ten years were spent in Marshall, two years in the machine shops and eight years conducting a blacksmith shop. He then moved to the farm he now operates in Coon Creek township, consisting of 560 acres. In addition to general farming, he raises considerable stock, among other breeds, Poland China hogs, Shorthorn cattle, Percheron and Coach horses and White Plymouth Rock chickens. Mr. Swanson is a member of the Swedish Lutheran church. He has one brother and one sister, both of whom reside in Kalmarlane, Sweden. They are Albin F. and Elvira Swanson. Mrs. Swanson has one sister, Ester, who resides at Kalmarlane.

On April 9, 1898, Ida Victoria West became the wife of Mr. Swanson. She is the daughter of Per August and Anna Christina West. The former is dead and the latter resides in Kalmarlane. Mrs. Swanson was born February 20, 1874. Mr. Swanson and his wife are the parents of two children: Carl Robert, born October 17, 1903, and Ruth, born February 10, 1909.

BERNER LEKNES (1908) is cashier of the First State Bank of Russell. His mother died when he was eight years old, and his father came to the United States from Norway and located in Renville county, Minnesota, where he still resides. Our subject has one brother, Ingvard, who is a banker at Bricelyn, Minnesota, and the following half-brothers and sisters: Olaf, of Sacred Heart, Renville county; Anna, Edwin, Emma and Alma, who reside at home.

Berner was born in the land of the midnight sun July 1, 1875, and came to the United States with his father when nine years of age. They settled in Renville coun-

ty, Minnesota, where our subject grew to manhood and attended school. He was a student at the Willmar Seminary and later, in 1895-96, attended the Namsos Academy in Norway. Returning to Renville county, Berner lived there until 1900, when he went to Blue Earth and engaged in the banking business. Later he went to Rake, Iowa, where he conducted a bank for the Ross Banking Company one and one-half years. He then went to Williston, North Dakota, where he was assistant cashier of the First National Bank.

In May, 1908, Mr. Leknes came to Lyon county and located at Russell, where he has since been cashier of the First State Bank. He is also a stockholder and director of the bank, which was organized as a state bank in 1903, with a capital of \$15,000. It does a general banking, loan and insurance business. W. E. C. Ross is president of the institution.

Mr. Leknes holds membership in Blue Earth Lodge No. 57, A. F. & A. M., at Blue Earth, Minnesota, and in Mt. Zion Lodge, R. A. M., at Blue Earth. He is also a member of the M. W. A. and A. O. U. W. lodges at Russell.

Mr. Leknes was married at Rake, Iowa, June 27, 1906, to Dora Engeseth, a native of Faribault county, Minnesota. Mr. and Mrs. Leknes have two children: Thelma and Elbert.

EMIEL DE SUTTER (1882) is one of Belgium's native sons who has achieved success and prosperity in his adopted country and his farm is one of the finest pieces of real estate in Westerheim township. He owns the southeast quarter and eighty acres of the southwest quarter of section 29—240 acres—and rents eighty acres in addition to his own land.

Emiel is the son of Charles and Mary (Pauw) De Sutter and was born in Belgium September 19, 1881. When he was one year old his family immigrated to America and located in Lyon county, on the quarter section where our subject now resides. The farm was then raw prairie land, and the skillful and progressive methods of its owner and his father have made it the splendid property which it is today.

Our subject has lived on his present farm

since coming to America. He was educated in the township and was brought up with a thorough knowledge of farming. The boy's mother died on August 28, 1896, and the father a few years later moved to Ghent to live, where he died in 1905 at the age of seventy-seven years. Young De Sutter took charge of the farm after his father moved to Ghent and one year before the latter's death Emiel purchased the home farm.

The wedding ceremony which made Emiel De Sutter and Helen Van Hee man and wife was performed in Ghent June 22, 1904. She was born in Grandview township and is the daughter of Angelus Van Hee, one of the township's well known farmers. Emiel De Sutter has seven brothers and sisters living, Andrew, Nathalie, Camiel, August, Peter, Louis and Archie. One sister, Alphincine, is dead.

Archie J. De Sutter, brother of the above, was born in Belgium April 8, 1879, and came to America with his parents. He was brought up on the home farm and resided there until 1907, in which year he married and purchased the northeast quarter of section 29, Westerheim township, and has since been farming the place with profit. He also owns the east half of the northwest quarter of the same section. He has brought his farm from its original unimproved state to its present one of substantial buildings, well cultivated land and modern advantages. Mr. De Sutter has been road overseer and is the clerk of school district No. 54.

Archie J. De Sutter and Isabelle Moors, a native of Belgium, were united in marriage at Minneota on November 12, 1907. The De Sutter families are members of the Catholic church.

AMUND H. AMUNDSON (1882) owns and farms the northwest quarter of the southwest quarter of section 20, Monroe township, besides renting and farming additional land. For the past five years he has been a director of the Garvin Farmers Independent Elevator Company.

Hallingdal, Norway, was the boyhood home of Amund Amundson, and he was born April 14, 1863. The lad was brought up on a farm and received his education in the public schools and also received several months' schooling in America after he immigrated

to this country in May, 1882. During his first year in the United States Amund made his home with an uncle, Ole Amundson, on section 20, Monroe township, Lyon county. The next year his parents came to this country and rented land in Lyon county, and Amund made his home with them. In 1888 the father took a homestead in Monroe township, the place which our subject now owns and which he bought from his mother in 1910. He has farmed the place himself since the father's death in 1895.

Helge Amundson, father of our subject, was born in Norway March 5, 1835. Amund's mother, Sigrid (Anfindson) Amundson, has lived on the farm and kept house for her son since the father's death. Amund Amundson is clerk of Monroe township, a position he has held ten years. For seven years he has served as clerk of school district No. 33, and he was for several years one of the supervisors of the township. Mr. Amundson is affiliated with the Holand Norwegian Lutheran church and is a member of the Sons of Norway organization of Tracy.

F. CHARLES BURCKHARDT (1895) is one of the successful and prosperous farmers of Coon Creek township, where he has resided the past seventeen years. He was born in Stephenson county, Illinois, November 3, 1871. His father was the late John Burckhardt and his mother is Albertina (Watzke) Burckhardt, both of whom were born in Germany. The father came to America when four years of age and located in Illinois, where he resided until his removal to Lyon county in 1895. He died in March, 1908. The mother resides on the old home place near Russell.

Charles attended school in Illinois until nineteen years of age, after which he assisted his father on the farm until twenty-four years of age. In 1895 he accompanied his parents to Lyon county and took charge of the farm which he now operates, the northeast quarter of section 23, Coon Creek township. He owns 280 acres of land. He also owns village property in Russell. In addition to general farming Mr. Burckhardt raises a great deal of stock, including Duroc-Jersey hogs, Durham cattle and Plymouth Rock chickens. He is a member of the A. O. U. W. lodge and holds stock in the

Farmers Elevator Company of Russell and in the Farmers Mutual Telephone Company. He was the owner of the first automobile in Coon Creek township, a Maytag car.

Mr. Burckhardt was married December 18, 1896, to Rachael Nina Milner, a daughter of Thomas and Ella (Knapp) Milner, of Russell. The father is a native of Ohio and the mother of Wisconsin. Mrs. Burckhardt was born April 23, 1880, in Coon Creek township. To this union have been born two children: Allie, born June 26, 1899, died April 11, 1901; Allen, born May 20, 1901.

Mr. Burckhardt has four brothers and three sisters, as follows: Alfred, Henry, John, Oscar, Lizzie (Mrs. Fred Henrichs), Ida (Mrs. Henry Siebert), all of Coon Creek township; and Annie (Mrs. John Sullivan), of Matlock, Iowa. Mrs. Burckhardt has one brother and one sister: Vernon, of Russell, and Jessie (Mrs. Herbert Webster), of Aberdeen, South Dakota.

AUGUST DURRENBURGER (1892) is the proprietor of a Marshall harness shop and has lived in that city twenty years. He is a native Minnesotan, having been born at Henderson February 10, 1870. His father, Gephard Durrenbarger, was born in Germany, came to America when a young man, bought government land at St. Anthony Park, and made his first home in the new world at that point. Later he moved to Henderson, where he bought land and resided until an old man. He died in Nicollet county in 1903 at the age of eighty-three years. Gephard Durrenbarger was married in the old country to Tressie Miller. She now resides with a daughter at St. Peter and is seventy-six years of age. There are nine children in the family, as follows: Anton, Tressie, Gephard, Joseph, Lena, Theodore, August, Rose and Marie, all residents of Minnesota.

When August was three years of age he accompanied the family from Henderson to LeSueur county and on his father's farm there he grew to manhood. He learned the harness maker's trade at LeSueur and followed that occupation there until locating in Marshall in 1892. For five years after his arrival in Marshall Mr. Durrenbarger conducted the harness shop of J. A. Cosgrove. Then he and Gilbert Johnson bought the

shop, conducted it under the firm name of Durrenbarger & Johnson two years, and then our subject became the sole owner.

Mr. Durrenbarger has made many improvements since he took charge of the shop, having installed the latest machinery and putting it in first-class shape. He manufactures all kinds of harness and other horse goods and carries in stock trunks and traveling bags. Mr. Durrenbarger also owns a half interest in the Marshall hitch barn, one of the largest livery barns in the county. His partner in business is J. V. Williams, in partnership with whom he also owns a farm.

At Marshall, on October 20, 1896, Mr. Durrenbarger was married to Louise Reigner, a native of Illinois and the daughter of Isaac Reigner, an early settler of Lyon county. Mr. and Mrs. Durrenbarger have two children, Olivine, aged eleven years, and Horace, aged four years.

Mr. Durrenbarger has served two terms as a member of the Marshall City Council. He is a member of the Royal Arcanum lodge.

GRIFF. HUGHES (1885) is a retired farmer who makes his home in Garvin and who has been a resident of Lyon county twenty-seven years. He was born in Wales on the fourth of July, 1867, and when eighteen years of age, in 1885, he came to America and has ever since been a resident of Lyon county.

The first four years of his life in the county Mr. Hughes spent in the home of his aunt, Mrs. Benjamin Thomas, in Custer township. He worked on the Thomas farm for one year and on other farms in the vicinity three years, and then bought a 160-acre farm on section 9, Custer, and erected the first house on the section. Mr. Hughes maintained bachelor's hall on that place and engaged in farming continuously until he retired from active pursuits in October, 1910, and moved to Garvin. Besides his farm Mr. Hughes owns property in Marshall. He is a member of the M. W. A. lodge. At the present writing Mr. Hughes is visiting at his old home in Wales.

The only near relatives our subject has in America are one brother and two nieces, Mrs. Everett Harris, of Blue Earth county, and Mrs. Ole Olson, of Custer township. In

his father's family are ten children, named as follows: Thomas, John, William, who died December 19, 1911, at the age of fifty-two years; Owen, who lives in Utica, New York; Hugh, Griff., Richard (deceased), James, George and Jane. All the children except himself and Owen live in Wales. The parents of these children were William and Elizabeth (Williams) Hughes. The mother died in 1872, the father in 1907, at the age of seventy-five years.

THEODORE M. THOMAS (1874), proprietor of the Rexall drug store, of Marshall, is a native of Lyon county, having been born in Grandview township July 9, 1874. His parents were Jacob and Clara (Baldwin) Thomas, who were among the earliest settlers of Lyon county.

Jacob Thomas was born in Elmira, New York, and his wife in Warren, Pennsylvania. They came to Lyon county in 1872, before the railroad was built to the county, and they hauled their supplies from Redwood Falls. Homesteading in Grandview township, they lived the first winter in the usual sod shanty, and the next year Mr. Thomas assisted in making the survey for the Northwestern railroad. The family resided on the farm until 1890, when they located in Cottonwood and Mr. Thomas engaged in the drug business with his son. He moved to Sioux Falls in 1907 and died there November 22, 1909, at the age of seventy-one years. Mrs. Thomas died in Cottonwood in 1906. There were seven children in the family, of whom the following three are living: Frank, of Lemon, South Dakota; Mrs. A. M. DeLand, of Watertown, South Dakota; and Theodore M.

The subject of this biography spent the first eighteen years of his life on the farm in Grandview township. He completed his education in the Marshall High School and clerked in the drug store of W. W. Salisbury. He took a course in the Minneapolis School of Pharmacy and during the next four years was employed as a pharmacist in the West Hotel drug store. He then located in Wood Lake, Minnesota, where he conducted a drug store six years. Mr. Thomas returned to Marshall in 1907 and established his present business in the Dibble Block. He carries a complete line of

drugs and specialties and gives special attention to prescription work. He also handles cigars, tobacco, ice cream and soda.

Mr. Thomas was married at Cottonwood September 18, 1901, to Jean Lowe. She is a native of Lyon county and the daughter of George Lowe, a pioneer settler. Mr. Thomas is a member of the Masonic, Eastern Star, K. P. and M. W. A. lodges. For three years he was master of the Wood Lake A. F. & A. M. lodge. He has been treasurer of the city of Marshall for the past three years.

SANDER SANDERSON (1892) is the owner of 340 acres of land on sections 29 and 28, Shelburne township, upon which he has resided for the past twenty years. He was born in Hollingdahl, Norway, May 6, 1847, the son of Sander and Turi (Larson) Olson, both of whom are deceased.

Sander lived in Norway until he was twenty-two years of age. He attended school until fourteen and thereafter worked at the tailor's trade. He came to America in 1869 and for the next twelve years worked in Olmsted county, Minnesota, as a farm laborer. He then moved to Lac qui Parle county, pre-empted eighty acres of land, and engaged in farming until the fall of 1892. At that time he purchased his Shelburne township farm and he has ever since resided on it. In late years he has turned the management of the property over to his sons.

Mr. Sanderson was a member of the Shelburne Board of Supervisors one year and has been a member of the school board of district No. 57 for about fifteen years. He is a member of the Norwegian Lutheran Synod church of Ruthton and was formerly a trustee of that church.

The marriage of our subject to Ingborg Starkson occurred in Olmsted county, Minnesota, March 17, 1882. She was born in the county in which she was married May 8, 1862, and is a daughter of the late B. Starkson, a pioneer of Olmsted county. The following eight children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Sanderson and all reside at home: Augusta Turina, born March 6, 1883; Berton, born August 12, 1885; Sander, born September 24, 1887; Louis, born July 29, 1890; William and Ida, twins, born March 28, 1893; Lina, born October 8, 1895; Simon, born October 20, 1900.



THEO. M. THOMAS, DRUGGIST  
The Rexall Store.



FAMILY OF S. SANDERSON, SHELBURNE TOWNSHIP



MICHAEL G. OFSTAD (1886) is a successful farmer and stock raiser of Shelburne township and owns 120 acres of land on the south half of section 19. His brother Andrew owns land on the north half of the same section.

Michael Ofstad was born in Trondhjem, Norway, in 1853, the son of Gunder S. and Mary (Holstad) Ofstad. Both parents are now dead. Attendance in the common schools in Norway occupied the first years of the boy's life, and, as was the custom, Michael had to help with the farm work. At the age of fifteen he discontinued his school work and gave his whole time to work on the farm.

Soon after passing his nineteenth birthday Michael left his native land for the United States, and after seeing the wonders of the city of New York he journeyed to Michigan, where he had heard of the chances for work in the mines. Near Ishpeming he found employment in the iron mines and remained two years. The underground work did not appeal to the young man who had been accustomed to work in the open, and he found something much more to his taste in the lumbering camps of Wisconsin, where he worked as teamster for the next five years. The next year found the subject of our sketch back in Ishpeming, which continued to be his home for the next five years.

During this residence in Ishpeming Michael was married, on January 6, 1881, to Ingeborg Henrickson, a girl who had come to America from Trondhjem, Norway. In the fall of 1886 the Ofstads came to Minnesota and located in Lyon county. Mr. Ofstad purchased the land upon which he now has his home and where the family has maintained an uninterrupted residence of more than a quarter of a century. Mr. Ofstad is a member of the Norwegian Lutheran church of Florence. He was road overseer several years and was also member of the Board of Supervisors several terms.

Eleven children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Michael Ofstad. Annie (Mrs. Mike Frink) and Gytia live in Faribault. Mary (Mrs. Mont English) lives in Marshall, where Carolina, another daughter, is a high school student. Minnie teaches school at Burchard. Lida, Gilbert, Ralph, Helma, Em-

ily and Esther live at home with their parents.

JOHN TEGELS (1899) owns a quarter of section 24 and an adjoining quarter on section 25, Fairview township, and farms the whole half section. He bought the place one year after he arrived in Lyon, made all the improvements on it, and now has a splendid place. He raises a great deal of stock in addition to his general farming.

Holland is Mr. Tegels' native land, and he was born May 17, 1856. He came to America with his parents, Henry and Elizabeth (Beckers) Tegels, in 1863, and the family located in Wisconsin, where they lived about ten years. From there they went to Carroll county, Iowa, where the parents lived until their deaths. John received his schooling in Iowa and was on the farm with his father about four years, after which he rented land in the county and farmed for himself several years.

In 1885 Mr. Tegels moved to Humphrey, Nebraska, where he lived three years and was employed on the section and in an elevator. His next residence was in Sheridan county, and there he took a homestead, proved up on it, and farmed until 1899. That year he came to Lyon county, located in Fairview township, and one year later moved to his present place. Mr. Tegels is a director of school district No. 86 and has served since 1901, with the exception of one year.

The subject of this sketch was married June 17, 1879, to Elizabeth Horn, the wedding occurring in Carroll county, Iowa. She was born in Illinois October 25, 1857. To this union have been born the following children: Catherine (Mrs. George Raymond), born February 22, 1880; Matilda (Mrs. John Blake), born September 5, 1881; Frank, born August 21, 1883, died February 29, 1884; Anton, born December 1, 1884; Elizabeth, born June 20, 1887; Stephen (killed by train November 16, 1910), born December 18, 1888; Henry, born March 10, 1890; Mathias, born October 11, 1892; May, born December 2, 1894; Joseph, born February 3, 1897; and Lawrence, born February 1, 1899. The last four children named are at home with their parents. The other liv-

ing children are residents of Stanley township.

The Tegels family are members of the Roman Catholic church. Mr. Tegels' fraternal affiliations are with the Modern Woodmen lodge.

DAVID L. McLAUGHLIN (1888) is the proprietor of a blacksmith shop and dealer in farm machinery in the village of Amiret. He was born at Racine, Wisconsin, May 18, 1850, the son of William and Catherine (Gray) McLaughlin, natives of Scotland. They came to the United States in 1848 and located at Racine, later moving to Sparta, Wisconsin, where the father died in 1899. The mother died in 1855, and the father was married a second time, to Catherine Hurley.

David came to Lyon county in 1888 and for the first eighteen months was stationed at Camden, working on the grade for the Great Northern railway. He then moved to Amiret and opened a blacksmith shop, which he has since conducted, also dealing in implements in a small way. Eight years ago he put in a complete stock of farm implements in partnership with his son Louis, the firm name being McLaughlin & Co. Mr. McLaughlin is a member of the Yeomen lodge and was a school director for nine years.

Our subject was married in Steele county, Minnesota, April, 1869, to Hanna E. Ellis. They are the parents of the following children: Catherine (Mrs. William Huddeston), of Cottonwood; Alice (Mrs. William Curry), of Amiret; Agnes (Mrs. Fred Shaffer), of Amiret; Louis, of Amiret.

Mr. McLaughlin has two brothers and three sisters: Margaret Ramsey, of Michigan; John, of Garrett City, Indiana; Anna Ellis, of Owatonna; Nettie Schaffer, of Sparta, Wisconsin.

DR. W. D. JAMES (1890) has been engaged in the practice of dentistry in Tracy for the past twenty-two years, having been the first resident dentist to locate in the city. He has taken an active part in the affairs of the city in which he has lived so long and was mayor in 1897 and 1898. Dr. James is interested in several Tracy institutions and has a farm in Lyon county and one in Murray county.

In Hudson, Michigan, on July 30, 1866, Dr. James was born. He attended the Hudson High School and then took a course in the Baltimore College of Dental Surgery, from which he was graduated in 1889. In May of that year he and his brother, Dr. F. P. James, opened an office for the practice of their profession at Sleepy Eye, Minnesota. One and one-half years later, on October 1, 1890, Dr. James opened his office in Tracy and has ever since conducted it. In 1905 he admitted as a partner his nephew, Dr. Don Casselman, and the business has since been conducted under the firm name of James & Casselman.

Dr. James is the son of William D. and Harriet D. (Perkins) James. They were born in New York State but were early settlers of Michigan, the father having located there in 1856. The mother still lives in Hudson, Michigan; the father died October 27, 1897. Besides our subject there are three other children in the family, namely: Dr. Fred P. James, of Sleepy Eye; Mrs. Minnie Hume, of Hudson, Michigan; and Dr. Frank S. James, of Winona.

The marriage of Dr. James to Susie M. Steel occurred in Tracy December 9, 1901. She is a daughter of G. M. and Lucy A. (French) Steel, of Scotch-English ancestry, and was born in Appleton, Wisconsin. Dr. and Mrs. James have two daughters, Eloise and Ruth.

The doctor holds membership in the Masonic, Knights of Pythias, Modern Woodmen, Royal Neighbors and Eastern Star lodges.

HERMAN SHEUTZEL (1882) has been a resident of Lyon county for thirty years and for the last few years has been a farmer of Rock Lake township.

Mr. Sheutzel was born in West Prusen, Germany, June 27, 1854. His father was a farmer and he was raised on the farm and educated in the country school. At the age of fourteen the opportunity was given him to study music, and he devoted himself to this three years, afterward entering the army and serving five years. After leaving the army our subject farmed for himself in his native land until 1882. Then he came to the United States, located in Marshall, Lyon county, and worked on the railroad

one year. He moved from there to Tracy, and for twenty years was employed in the car shops of the Northwestern railroad.

Our subject's farming experience in Lyon county began when in 1903 he traded his Tracy residence property for forty acres of land in Rock Lake township. That he conducted six years, then trading it for a quarter section near Crookston, Minnesota. Mr. Sheutzel again traded, the last transaction finding him once more the owner of a Rock Lake farm, and he has since made his home on the north half of the southwest quarter of section 21.

Two years before leaving Germany, Herman Sheutzel was married, on December 10, 1880, to Augusta Weber, daughter of Julius and Albertine Weber. She was born February 2, 1855. The following children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Sheutzel: Martha, Gust, Lena, Frank, Harry, Augusta, Millie, Tillie, Adolph and Rudolph. Mr. Sheutzel is a member of the German Lutheran church.

JAMES WALTER ATWOOD (1880) is the owner of the feed mill, wood yard and dray line in the village of Lynd. He was born October 4, 1861, a son of James L. and Mariah Atwood, natives of Pennsylvania. The father died in 1892 and the mother in 1869.

The subject of this sketch received his early education in Wisconsin, where he attended school until fourteen years of age. His time was then spent working in a chair factory in Fort Atkinson, Wisconsin, until he was nineteen years of age. In 1880 Mr. Atwood landed in Lyon county and worked out at farm labor near Lynd during the summer months and in the woods of Wisconsin winters. Mr. Atwood followed that work two years and then hired out as teamster at the Camden mill. In 1892 he went to South Dakota, where he homesteaded land fifteen miles from Watertown. He lived on that place six years, after which he returned to Lynd and purchased land in Lynd township, which he operated six years and then moved to the village. He conducts a feed mill, wood yard and dray line.

Mr. Atwood has been town treasurer and a director of school district No. 1 for five years and is treasurer of the Lynd Cemetery Association. He is a Modern Woodman and is banker of that lodge at Lynd.

On March 29, 1893, Mr. Atwood was united in marriage to Jessie Kiel, a daughter of L. S. Kiel, who was a pioneer resident of Lyon county but who now resides at Rathdrum, Idaho. Mr. Kiel is a native of Pennsylvania and Mrs. Kiel was born in Michigan. Mr. and Mrs. Atwood have the following children: Howard J., born January 11, 1895; Clair W., born November 7, 1897; Donald V., born September 20, 1902. All reside at home with their parents.

EUGENE B. KILEY (1887), manager of the Van Dusen Grain Company at Minneota, has spent the greater part of his life as a resident of Lyon county. He was born in Canada June 27, 1872, the son of James and Ellen (Donnahue) Kiley, natives of Ireland and Canada, respectively. The family settled in Lincoln county, Minnesota, in 1881 and later were residents of Lyon county. The father of our subject died in March, 1911, at the age of eighty-five years; his mother is still living. There are eight living children in the family: John, James, Eugene B., Cornelius, Martin, Margaret and Jeremiah and Mary Ann, who are twins.

Eugene came to Minnesota with his parents from Canada when nine years of age and for six years lived on a Lincoln county farm with them. The family home was then made in Westerheim township, Lyon county, where our subject grew to manhood and resided until 1904. That year he was married and engaged in farming on his own account and followed that occupation until 1909. Since that time he has resided in Minneota, acting as the local representative for the Van Dusen Company.

The date of the marriage of Mr. Kiley to Annie Mullen was October 25, 1904, and the ceremony was performed in Minneota. Mrs. Kiley is the daughter of Daniel and Ellen Mullen. She was born in England and came to Minneota with her parents in 1880. Mrs. Mullen is still a resident of Lyon county, living on the farm south of Minneota. To Mr. and Mrs. Kiley have been born four children, named as follows: Eugene B., Patrick T. and Daniel J. and Mary E. (twins).

CARL R. SWONSON (1898), one of the most prosperous farmers and stock raisers of Lake Marshall township, was born in

Sweden January 18, 1871, a son of Swen and Anna (Carlson) Williams. Carl started to work out at farm labor when fourteen years of age. At twenty-one years of age he served thirty days in the standing army of Sweden, after which he secured a leave from the king of Sweden that he might come to America. He came in 1892 and located at Aledo, Illinois, near which place he worked for his uncle on the farm one year. Later he went to Oakville, Iowa, where he worked at farm labor three years, and then rented land two years.

In the fall of 1898 our subject came to Lyon county. He worked at threshing that fall and purchased the northeast quarter of section 16, Lake Marshall township. Later he purchased the southeast quarter of the same section, making him the owner of the east half of section 16. He has a fine place, known as Pleasant View Farm. In addition to farming, Mr. Swenson raises a great deal of stock, among other breeds Shorthorn cattle, O. I. C. and Chester White hogs, Oxford Down Sheep, White Plymouth Rock chickens, White Pekin ducks, Bronze turkeys and geese. He has received several premiums at the fairs with his stock. Mr. Swenson is a member of the Maccabees lodge.

On March 8, 1901, at Marshall, occurred the marriage of Mr. Swenson to Gusta B. Swenson, a native of Sweden. She was born April 13, 1875, and is a daughter of Swan and Enrin Maria S. Williamson. Mrs. Swenson came to America in 1900. To Mr. and Mrs. Swenson have been born the following named children: Esther E., born February 23, 1902; Emma M., born October 11, 1903.

CHARLES F. PAGEL (1886) has been a resident of Custer township the past six years, having purchased in 1906 the southwest quarter of section 8, where he now resides.

Mr. Pagel was born in Germany April 19, 1873, and the first thirteen years of his life were spent in the old country, where he received his early education. The family came to this country and settled in Amiret township, the father buying land and farming. Charles completed his education in the country schools and helped with the farm work. In 1897 he bought eighty acres on section 36, Sodus township, and commenced

farming for himself. Nine years later he bought the land in Custer where he now resides. Mr. Pagel raises Hereford cattle and Poland China hogs and engages in general farming.

Charles Pagel and Martha Bollmann were joined in the holy bonds of matrimony in Balaton on May 3, 1903. To this union have been born two children, Arthur and Kermet. Mrs. Pagel is the daughter of Carl and Amelia (Teske) Bollmann and was born in Germany.

Our subject is a shareholder in the Current Lake Telephone Company of Balaton.

PETER HANSEN (1887) is a prosperous retired Shelburne township farmer who has made his residence in Russell since the fall of 1909. Since making his home in town he has engaged some in stock buying and has operated two threshing outfits in the fall of the year. Last season he purchased a steam gang plow, which he operated some, and he will from now on do contract work. Mr. Hansen has a fine residence in town and still owns a well improved quarter section of land in Shelburne township.

Mr. Hansen was born August 18, 1876, in Iowa county, Iowa. His parents, Rasmus and Mary (Hansen) Hansen, were natives of Denmark who came to this country and located first in Iowa, moving to Lyon county in 1887. They bought land in Coon Creek township and resided there until their deaths. The father died in 1899, and Mrs. Hansen died in 1891. Besides Peter, there were five brothers and one sister, named, respectively, William, Julius, Henry, Louis, Charles and Christina. Charles died in 1911. The others are living in or near Russell. Peter lived on the home farm until the death of his father; then he purchased the quarter section in Shelburne which he now owns and which he farmed until moving to Russell.

Our subject was married October 14, 1900, to Carrie Peterson, a native of Denmark and a daughter of Hans and Ellen Peterson, who now reside in Russell. Mrs. Hansen was born April 3, 1882. She came with her parents to this country in 1883 and the family settled in Iowa, coming to Lyon county in 1887. Three brothers live in or near Russell, namely, Jay P., Hans C. and William C.

Mr. and Mrs. Peter Hansen have three children, whose names are Carl Wallace, born December 9, 1901; Harry Raymond, born November 24, 1903; and George Lewis, born January 22, 1906.

Mr. Hansen is a member of the Presbyterian church of Russell. Fraternally he is affiliated with the Masons, Workmen and Degree of Honor lodges. He is master workman of the A. O. U. W. lodge. For several years he was clerk of the school district and at different times has served as justice of the peace and road overseer in Shelburne township.

JOHN BUCKLEY (1880) is one of the oldest settlers, in point of residence, of the township of Westerheim. He farms 240 acres of his own on sections 7 and 19 and 240 acres of rented land and is ably assisted in the work on the farm by two of his sons, Leo and Cyril.

John Buckley is the son of George and Catherine (Terry) Buckley and was born in Birmingham, England, in 1862. He attended school in England and worked with his father, who was a contractor and builder. In 1880 the family came to America, and in May of that year George Buckley purchased the south half of the northeast quarter of section 19, Westerheim township. There the family made their home and there our subject has always resided, except one year when he was in St. Paul. The first home of the Buckleys was burned by a prairie fire and they endured many of the discomforts of the early days. The town of Ghent did not exist; it was simply a flag station. Among the few farmers in the township at that time were Knud Kjorness, O. J. Moe, Ole Orsen and M. Leeland.

Mr. and Mrs. George Buckley were the parents of three children: Mary, of St. Paul; Lizzie, of Fargo, North Dakota; and John, of this sketch. Mrs. Buckley died on the farm February 14, 1898, aged seventy-nine years. Her husband then sold out to his son and moved to Minneapolis with his two daughters, and he died there in May, 1906, at the age of eighty-two. John has since been successfully conducting the farm. He is active in township affairs and has served on the district school board.

The subject of this sketch was married

in Minneota on January 21, 1885, to Helen Culshaw, and to this union the following children have been born: Edward J., of Eidsvold; Elizabeth (Mrs. Will McMahon), of Eidsvold; Rose, Leo, Cyril, Catherine, Lionel, Vincent, Helen, Agnes and Bernard. His wife was born in Stafford, England, March 18, 1866, and came to the United States in 1881 with her parents, Robert and Helen (Parker) Culshaw. The father died in Minneota May 7, 1912, aged seventy-two years; Mrs. Culshaw died in 1907 at the age of sixty-six.

The Buckleys are members of the Catholic church of Minneota. That church was built by the subject of this sketch and his father, who constructed many of the houses in that village. They also erected the first building—a store—in Ghent, then called Grandview.

JAMES H. HALL (1897), county attorney of Lyon county, was born in Kankakee county, Illinois, in 1876. He is the son of James and Margaret (McGlade) Hall, of Balaton. Both parents were born in Ireland and came to America when children.

In 1883 the family moved to Hand county, South Dakota. Our subject received his education in the country schools of that county and in Wessington Springs Seminary. After his school days he taught one year in South Dakota, and in 1897 he located in Lyon county. After teaching two years in Lyon county Mr. Hall took up the study of law in the offices of O. E. Maxson, E. C. Patterson and V. B. Seward. He then attended the night school of the St. Paul College of Law, took the state bar examination, and was admitted to practice in 1905. He formed a partnership with E. C. Patterson, of Marshall, and was a member of the firm of Patterson & Hall from October, 1905, until January 1, 1910. Mr. Hall then opened an office in the Dibble Block. He was elected county attorney in 1910 and took office the first of the following year.

Mr. Hall was married December 31, 1905, to Rose Parfitt, of Sunnyside, Washington. He is a member of the Methodist church and of the Masonic order.

WILLIAM C. EHLERS (1887) is one of the thrifty young farmers of Lynd township

who has, in the true sense of the word, "made good." He is a native of the Badger State and was born in Greenville June 20, 1869, a son of Louis and Mary (Lorenz) Ehlers. The father was killed in a runaway accident in 1873 and the mother died at the home of her son in Lynd township September 23, 1911. William received his education in the country schools of Greenville, which he attended until fourteen years of age.

After finishing school young Ehlers worked for his brothers on the farm for three years, moving with his brother Louis to Lyon county in 1887, where he spent eight years more in his employ. When twenty-three years of age he rented a farm, which he operated two years, and then he purchased the northwest quarter of section 6, Lake Marshall township. He farmed that three years and then traded the place to his brother Fred for the farm he now operates, the southeast quarter of section 2, Lynd township. Besides farming, our subject carries on stock raising. He is a stockholder in the Farmers Elevator Company of Marshall. Mr. Ehlers is a member of the Evangelical Association church of Marshall, of the M. W. A. lodge, and is clerk of school district No. 9. He was road overseer in Lynd township one year.

Mr. Ehlers was married February 20, 1895, to Minnie C. Friend, a daughter of John and Sophia (Burmeister) Friend. To this union have been born the following children: Raymond L., born May 26, 1897; Lillian M., born October 27, 1902; Walter W., born February 11, 1906; Albert C. (deceased), born October 20, 1899.

HENRY J. CAIN (1889) is district manager of the Mutual Life Insurance Company of New York and a man who has spent the greater part of his life in Lyon and Redwood counties. He was born in the little village of Dundee, Osceola township, Fond du Lac county, Wisconsin, on the fourth day of April, 1860. He received a common school education and was brought up on his father's farm, having the management of the farm two years before coming to Minnesota.

On the twentieth day of August, 1879, Mr.

Cain left home and two days later arrived in Marshall. He did not remain in Lyon county at that time but located in Redwood Falls, where he held a position as hotel clerk until the following March. He then squatted upon the northeast quarter of section 24, Westline township, Redwood county, and the next year, having received word that his claim was valid, he made homestead entry to the land. He improved the farm and made his home there until he became a citizen of Tracy in 1889. He developed the farm until it came to be recognized as one of the finest in the county.

Upon his removal to Tracy Mr. Cain was made district manager of the Mutual Life Insurance Company, a position he has since held. He has made a success of the business and has won many state prizes. From November, 1903, to April, 1904, he wrote more insurance than any other agent of the company in Minnesota, and received as a prize a free trip to the St. Louis exposition.

Mr. Cain owns land in Texas and a beautiful home in Tracy. He is a member of the Knights of Columbus lodge. During his residence in Redwood county he served as assessor of Westline township.

The marriage of our subject to Sarah E. Hogan occurred at Tracy on November 22, 1887. She is a native of Illinois and was brought up in LeSueur county, Minnesota. Mr. and Mrs. Cain have three children: Jay E., an employe of the Northwestern Railroad Company; Hazel M. and Harry P.

Henry J. Cain is a son of James and Mary Ann (Corcoran) Cain. They were born in Ireland, crossed the water to Canada in an early day, and were married there. Later they lived in New York State, and later still engaged in farming in Fond du Lac county, Wisconsin. The father homesteaded in Redwood county and later became a resident of Tracy. He died in Redwood county, at the home of his son, John F. Cain, in 1908, at the age of eighty-nine years. Mrs. Cain died in Redwood county in 1888 at the age of sixty-nine years. There are five living children in the Cain family, as follows: John F., of Redwood county; Margaret (Mrs. Andrew Holmes), of Milwaukee, Wisconsin; James, of Staples, Minnesota; Edward, who is in the United States navy; and Henry J., of this sketch.

WILLIAM CULSHAW (1882), who owns and farms the southwest quarter and the north half of the southeast quarter of section 9, Nordland township, has spent the entire thirty years of his life in that precinct. His is one of the finest farms in the neighborhood and he is an experienced agriculturist. He specializes on Duroc-Jersey hogs and Shorthorn cattle.

The parents of our subject were Robert and Helen (Parker) Culshaw. They arrived in Lyon county May 3, 1881, purchased land in Nordland township, and spent the rest of their lives there. The mother died on the home farm June 8, 1907; the father moved to Minneota in the fall of 1911 and died in that village May 7, 1912. They were highly respected residents.

William Culshaw was born to these parents in Nordland township February 2, 1882. He attended the district schools until sixteen years old and then received instruction from his parents, both of whom were former school teachers. He lived at home until 1908. Then he married, bought his farm, and engaged in agricultural pursuits independently.

Mr. Culshaw is a stockholder of the Farmers Elevator Company of Minneota. He served as road overseer two years, is a member of the Catholic church of Minneota and of the Modern Woodmen lodge of the same village.

The marriage of our subject to Carrie Jeremiason occurred at Minneota May 12, 1908. She was also born in Nordland township, the date of her birth being May 25, 1885. Her parents, Swen H. and Bertha (Bolsta) Jeremiason, came to Lyon county and homesteaded land in Nordland in 1872. They still live in that precinct. Mr. and Mrs. Culshaw have three children: Ignatius Robert, born November 30, 1909, and Blanch Mary and Beatrice Sophia, twins, born January 9, 1912.

JAMES VON WILLIAMS (1881), attorney at law, is a native of Marshall and has spent practically his entire life in that city. He was born March 26, 1881. After graduating from the Marshall High School he was a student at the University of Minnesota for six years. He was graduated

from the academic department in 1903 and from the law department in 1905.

After his graduation, Mr. Williams worked in a Marshall bank for a few months and then located in Fessenden, North Dakota, where he was admitted to the bar. There he was engaged in the practice of law, in abstracting, and in the insurance and real estate business for one year and eight months, at the end of which time he returned to Marshall. He has since practised his profession and engaged in the insurance business, making a specialty of collections.

Mr. Williams has been city attorney the last two years. He is a member of the Blue Lodge (being master of the local lodge in 1912) and of the Chapter of the Masonic orders and of the Modern Woodmen of America lodge. He owns land in Lyon and Lincoln counties and in Colorado, the cement block garage on Main Street, and a half interest in the Hitch livery barn, his partner being August Durrenburger.

The father of our subject is James W. Williams, who was born in Wisconsin, came to Marshall in the early seventies, and is still a resident of the city. For many years he engaged in the hardware business. He has served as a member of the Minnesota Legislature, as county treasurer and clerk of the district court. The mother of our subject is Ada Frances (Webster) Williams, a daughter of Captain S. Webster, a homesteader and early settler of Lyon county. There are three children in the family, the other two being Roy W., of Lyon county, and Helen A. (Mrs. C. E. Hall), of Gary, Indiana.

Mr. Williams was married at Cottonwood November 8, 1911, to Amelia Anderson, a native of Lyon county and a daughter of Gabriel Anderson, one of the county's early settlers.

LEO HENNEN (1883), a Westerheim township farmer, was born in Holland January 3, 1870, and spent the first thirteen years of his life in his native country. He was brought up on his father's farm and received practically all of his schooling before the family came to America in 1883.

He is the son of Arnold and Helen Hennen. The family located in Ghent, Minnesota, soon after their arrival to this country, and after spending a few weeks in that village they moved to Wisconsin, where they lived on a farm about six years. The Hennens then returned to Lyon county and bought a quarter on section 21. The father still lives on the place; Mrs. Hennen died in 1904. Mr. and Mrs. Hennen were the parents of seven children, of whom the following are living: Leo, of this sketch; Jacob J., Mary (Mrs. Anton Van Uden), of Westerheim; and Mathew.

Leo Hennen lived with his parents until about thirty-two years of age. Then he purchased the southwest quarter of section 32, Westerheim township, and he has since resided on the place. He has acquired additional land, and the original quarter, which was an unimproved place with no buildings on it, has been converted by our subject into a model farm, with buildings, fences, groves and modern conveniences. Mr. Hennen realizes the revenue to be derived from stock and every year feeds a carload of cattle for shipment to market. He deserves credit for the success he has made.

The subject of this sketch married Christina Van Uden in Ghent on May 24, 1904. She is a native of Holland and came to this country in 1892. Four children have been born to this union, their names being Annie, Leo, Dora and Gertrude.

Mr. Hennen is a member of the Catholic church and belongs to the Catholic Order of Foresters lodge.

F. W. RULIFFSON (1893) is cashier of the First National Bank of Balaton. He is a native of Lincoln county, Minnesota, and was born August 29, 1888, a son of C. P. and Alice M. (Sloan) Ruliffson, who were pioneer residents of Steele county, Minnesota. They located in Lincoln county in an early day, later moving to South Dakota, and still later to Lyon county, in 1893, locating near Russell, where they now reside.

Our subject accompanied his parents to Lyon county in 1893. He attended the common schools until 1900, when he en-

tered the Marshall schools, from which he was graduated in June, 1907. After completing his high school work, Mr. Ruliffson entered the First National Bank of Balaton as bookkeeper and was later made assistant cashier of that institution. In November, 1910, he was promoted to the cashiership, which position he has since held. He is also a stockholder of the bank.

Mr. Ruliffson is a member of the Congregational church of Marshall. He holds membership in the Masonic, Elks and A. O. U. W. lodges. He has stock in the Union Land and Credit Company of Balaton.

Mr. Ruliffson was married at Minneota May 23, 1912, to Amy T. Dahl, who was born at Granite Falls, Minnesota, December 2, 1890. Her parents, Herman N. and Anna (Hanson) Dahl, have been residents of Minneota since 1895. Mrs. Ruliffson was graduated from the Minneota High School in 1907, took a two-year course at Carleton College, Northfield, and was graduated as a nurse from the Chicago Baptist Hospital in October, 1911.

HANS VOLDEN (1893), who owns and farms 240 acres of land on sections 15 and 22, Lucas township, is a native of Guldbrands, Norway, and was born October 28, 1869, a son of Ole and Mare (Bergum) Volden. He grew to manhood in his native land, working at farm labor and for four years in a flouring mill.

In 1893 Mr. Volden crossed the Atlantic to make his home in the New World. He proceeded at once to Cottonwood, Lyon county, and his home has ever since been in that vicinity. For a number of years he worked out on farms and in 1902 began farming for himself. He has made all the improvements on the farm and has a good home and set of buildings. He raises Durham cattle and Poland China hogs. Mr. Volden was clerk of school district No. 74 one year and he and his family are members of the Norwegian Lutheran church.

Mr. Volden was married to Johanna M. Peterson at Cottonwood June 24, 1899. She was born in Rice county, Minnesota, August 8, 1868, a daughter of Christopher

and Beret (Slette) Peterson. Her parents came from Norway to the United States in 1868, lived in Rice county a few years, and in 1872 came with the early settlers to Lyon county and took as a homestead claim the southeast quarter of section 22, Lucas township. Her father died in 1909; her mother lives in Cottonwood. Mr. and Mrs. Volden have three children, Clark, Melvina and Oscar.

WILLIAM E. HEAGLE (1883) is a prosperous farmer of Lyon county and makes his home on the northwest quarter of section 9, Clifton township. He also owns 160 acres in Stanley township and 338 acres in Redwood county. Mr. Heagle is interested in stock raising and has been doing a profitable business in the shipping of Duroc-Jersey hogs and Durham cattle. He is a shareholder of the Farmers Elevator Company of Marshall and of the Lyon County Fair Association.

Mr. Heagle was born in Winnebago county, Illinois, September 7, 1862. His parents, B. J. and Clarisa (Sweet) Heagle, were natives of New York State and located in Illinois in an early day. The father was a farmer and was also interested in a flouring mill. William received his schooling and grew to manhood in Illinois, and in 1883 he came to Lyon county. He rented land on section 19, Lake Marshall township, which his father had purchased the year before, and farmed eleven years.

In 1894 Mr. Heagle sold his Lyon county place and returned to Illinois, where he bought land and farmed five years. His experience in Lyon county had given him a good impression of this region and he returned in 1899 and bought the place where he now resides. Mr. Heagle was chairman of the township board ten years, and for several terms he was a director of his school district.

The marriage of our subject to Sarah Carmichael occurred in Illinois December 21, 1882. She was born in Ogle county of that state August 19, 1862, and is a daughter of Patrick and Jane (Graham) Carmichael, the former a native of Ireland and the latter of Canada. To Mr. and Mrs. Heagle one daughter, Etta Josephine, was born February 25, 1889. She is the

wife of Neil Van Dorin, a farmer of Clifton township.

Fraternally Mr. Heagle is associated with the A. F. & A. M. and the Modern Woodmen lodges.

NELS PEHRSON (1890) is the proprietor of the Model Clothing and Shoe House of Tracy, one of the progressive business enterprises of that city. Mr. Pehrson has been a resident of Tracy for many years and is a notable example of what can be accomplished by perseverance and application. He came to the country from Sweden when a young man without a dollar and he is now rated among the substantial men of the county.

Our subject was born in Malmo, Sweden, March 3, 1867. He received his education in his native land and there learned the goldsmith's trade. At the age of twenty-one years, in 1888, he came to America and the first year of his life in the New World was passed with an uncle, Peter Swan, in Murray county, Minnesota. Then he secured his first experience in the mercantile business, clerking in a store at Currie.

Mr. Pehrson located in Tracy in 1890. One year he clerked in the clothing store of Jacobi Brothers and one year in Martin Thurin's store. In the fall of 1891 he accepted a position with Pattridge Brothers and for six years he had charge of the clothing and shoe departments. He set up in business for himself in 1898, establishing a clothing and shoe store in the old First National Bank building on Front Street. He erected his present handsome business block in 1903. Mr. Pehrson made a trip to his native land in 1896 and in 1909 he and his wife made another trip to the old country, visiting England, Denmark, Sweden, Germany, Switzerland and France. Our subject is a member of the K. P. lodge and the Tracy Commercial Club.

At Walnut Grove, Redwood county, on New Years Day, 1906, Mr. Pehrson was married to Laura Lund, a daughter of Charles Lund, one of the pioneers of Redwood county. Mrs. Pehrson was educated in Gustavus Adolphus College.

The parents of Nels Pehrson were Pehr

and Elna (Swanson) Pehrson. He died in his native land in 1896; she continues to make her home in the old country. There are six living children of the family, as follows: Anna, Nels, Ida, Ernest, Edward and Emil.

LOUIS E. PETERSON (1887) is a thorough believer in the value of Lyon county farm land, and his judgment should be good, for Mr. Peterson has prospered since locating on the west half of the southeast quarter of section 31, Rock Lake township. With the additional forty which he has charge of Mr. Peterson farms 120 acres and also raises considerable stock for market. He has outside interests, being a member of the board of directors of the Western Mutual Fire Insurance Company of Balaton and of the Farmers Co-operative Elevator Company of the same village.

Sweden is Louis Peterson's native country. He came to America in 1880, locating in Knox county, Illinois, where he worked as a farm laborer seven years. In March, 1887, he was married at Prophetstown, Illinois, to Nellie Olson, a native of Sweden. She was born December 25, 1854. Immediately after their marriage Mr. Peterson and his bride departed for Lyon county and located on the farm which he had purchased in Rock Lake township from the Winona & St. Peter Railroad Company. On that place they have since made their home. For the past fourteen years a boy, Leonard Johnson, has made his home with the Petersons.

Our subject has been clerk of the township board of Rock Lake the past five years and was chairman of the board for a number of years. He has also been school clerk and assessor several years during his Rock Lake residence. Mr. Peterson is a member, and for the past twenty-four years has been secretary and a deacon, of the Swedish Lutheran church of Scandia township, Murray county.

Louis Peterson's parents were Peter and Ellen (Johnson) Larson, both of whom are now dead. Louis Peterson was born October 3, 1857, and was educated in Sweden. When seventeen years old he commenced work in a saw mill as engineer and held

the position three years, afterward holding the position of bookkeeper two years. He resigned that position to come to America.

H. P. FULTON (1892) is a general contractor and the proprietor of a wood working manufactory and an automobile garage in the city of Marshall. He has been a resident of that city for the past twenty years and has taken a prominent part in the affairs of his city.

Mr. Fulton is the son of the late Francis M. and Annie M. (Palmer) Fulton, natives, respectively, of Maryland and Ohio. His father settled in Iowa in 1853, was married at West Liberty, and resided there until his death. The mother of our subject also died in that Iowa town. To these parents H. P. Fulton was born at West Liberty on August 20, 1868.

Until he was eighteen years of age young Fulton resided in his native county. At that age he went to the Black Hills, remained one year, and then took up his residence in Sioux City, Iowa. In that city he learned the carpenter's trade and worked at it there until locating in Marshall in 1892. He has ever since been engaged in contracting and building and has erected many of the leading business houses of the city, among others the State Bank Building, library, Schutz business house, Presbyterian church, Congregational church, Dibble's and Harden's residences and many others.

In 1900 Mr. Fulton erected his factory building for the purpose of making all kinds of building supplies and wood work. In July, 1910, he opened a garage in connection with his other business enterprises. He handles the Mitchell, Maxwell and Reo cars, sells automobile accessories, and does repair work. This establishment is one of the worthy enterprises of Marshall and from ten to fifty men are employed the year round. Mr. Fulton is a member of the Masonic lodge. He served two years as a member of the Marshall City Council.

In Sioux City, Iowa, on June 16, 1891, Mr. Fulton was united in marriage to Ida B. Meyers, of Tekama, Nebraska. They have three children: Ruth E., a stenographer; Ray M. and Robert C.

FRED J. GUELSOW (1887), farmer of Lynd township, was born in Germany November 2, 1863. His parents, William and Minnie (Romlo) Guelsow, died in the Fatherland.

Fred spent the first twenty-four years of his life in Germany and in 1887 he came to America and direct to Lyon county. He worked as a section hand at Marshall three years, farmed rented land in Lake Marshall township one year, worked on the section again for a year and as a farm hand one year. Then he went to Mille Lacs county, Minnesota, took a homestead, proved up on it, and farmed the place nine years.

Mr. Guelsow then sold his homestead and returned to Lyon county. He worked one year in Marshall, farmed near Ghent four years, on section 21, Lynd township, a short time, and in the spring of 1912 rented his present place, the southwest quarter of section 20, Lynd. He raises Shorthorn cattle and grade hogs.

The marriage of Mr. Guelsow occurred in Germany, his wife's maiden name being Matilda Tessmer. She was born June 15, 1862, a daughter of Paul Tessmer. Two children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Guelsow, Paul and Pauline.

WILLIAM P. TILLEMANS (1884), live stock dealer of Minneota, has resided in Lyon county for the last twenty-eight years. He was born in Holland January 21, 1875. When nine years of age he immigrated to the United States with his parents, who located on a farm south of Minneota in the township of Nordland. He remained with his parents and worked on that farm until he reached the age of twenty-two years. Then he moved to Minneota and has since dealt in live stock principally. In June, 1911, Mr. Tillemans was married to Katherine Welch, daughter of Philip Welch, of Tracy.

His parents, Johannes and Katherine Tillemans, are both dead. They were the parents of the following named children: John, Dena, William, Mary and Harry. Mr. Tillemans was married a second time, to Christina Hendrix. To them were born the following children: Nellie, Katherine, Sophia and Leon.

ANDREW CLAY (1900) is the proprietor of one of the finest improved farms of Amiret township and engages in general farming and stock raising. He is paying special attention to the Shorthorn breed of cattle and Poland China swine.

A native of Sweden, born August 14, 1871, Mr. Clay spent the first eighteen years of his life in his native land. The boy was brought up on his father's farm, and his education was acquired in the country school. In 1890 he accompanied his parents, Andrew and Mary (Klej) Johnson, to this country. The family located at Ironwood, Michigan, where the boy and his father found employment in the mines for several years. Later the boy spent the summers and falls in Minnesota, working in the harvest fields in Redwood and Yellow Medicine counties.

In 1895 the Clay family moved to Redwood county, where Andrew and his father purchased a quarter section of land, and there they resided until 1900, when they moved to Lyon county, the father purchasing land. Our subject rented land in Amiret township seven years and in 1907 moved to the north half of the northeast quarter of section 20, Amiret township, which he purchased in 1901 and where he has since resided.

On October 16, 1901, occurred the marriage of Andrew Clay and Emma Larson, daughter of Lars P. and Gustava Larson, both of whom are living in Custer township. Her parents settled in Lyon county in 1890 and have been continuous residents ever since. Mrs. Clay died in 1907. By her marriage to Mr. Clay she became the mother of three children, two of whom are living: Alma, born September 8, 1902; Anna, born March 29, 1904; and Henry (deceased), born November 10, 1905.

Mr. Clay's father is dead and his mother resides in Dudley, Minnesota. He has one brother, Charles, living in Trego, Wisconsin, and two sisters, Ida (Mrs. Andrew Nelson), of Dudley, and Hulda, of Minneapolis. One sister, Emma, died in Michigan in 1890.

Mr. Clay is a member of the Modern Woodmen lodge of Amiret. For one term he served as the constable of Amiret township.

WILLIAM B. THORBURN (1880), proprietor of a bus and dray line in the city of Marshall, is the only child born to William B. and Sarah A. (Stokes) Thorburn. His father was born in Scotland and his mother in Canada. Both are deceased.

Our subject was born in Sarnia, Canada, February 8, 1862. When a child he accompanied the family to Red Wing, Minnesota, later lived in River Falls, Wisconsin, and in 1880 came to Lyon county. He was then a boy eighteen years of age and for a year he worked on the farm of W. L. Watson, near Lynd. He then located in Marshall and began work in the L. B. Nichols livery barn, which was then conducted in the same building which houses the business now carried on by our subject. After being employed in the livery barn one and one-half years Mr. Thorburn took a homestead claim in South Dakota. He lived on that a short time and was in Wisconsin a short time before again becoming a resident of Lyon county. Until 1886 he worked at various occupations; then he married and started a dray line, which he has ever since conducted. In 1907 he bought the Nichols barn and has since been in the dray and bus business. For twenty-two years he was the local agent for the Standard Oil Company.

Mr. Thorburn was married in Marshall September 6, 1885, to Stella M. Chapman, a native of Austin, Minnesota. To this union have been born five children, named as follows: Lloyd M., William B., Jr., Neil O., Marvel E. and Norine E. Mr. Thorburn holds membership in the Masonic, Elks, Modern Brotherhood, Workmen and Yeomen lodges.

WILLIAM BEASLEY (1884) is a young farmer of Lyons township and a native of Lyon county, the date of his birth being August 1, 1884. He is the son of Reuben and Mary (Wilcox) Beasley, pioneer residents of the county. The mother, a native of England, died in 1901. The father resides with his son, Frank, in Lynd township.

William Beasley received his schooling in the district schools of Lyon county and later attended the Normal College

of Austin, Minnesota. After completing his education he worked a year for his father on the farm, and in 1906 he rented the southwest quarter of section 6, Lyons township, which he still operates.

Mr. Beasley is a member of the Presbyterian church. He raises considerable stock, among other breeds, Duroc-Jersey hogs, Durham cattle, Black Langshang chickens and Percheron horses. He is a successful farmer and stock raiser. Mr. Beasley has two brothers and one sister living, as follows: John T. and Daisy J., of Lynd township; and George, of Watertown, South Dakota. Our subject's father is a veteran of the Civil War, having served through the entire struggle.

Mr. Beasley was married November 9, 1905, to Lettie Kendall, a native of Lincoln county, Minnesota. She is a daughter of J. W. Kendall, a former business man of Tyler, and later proprietor of a hotel at Russell. Mrs. Beasley was born in March, 1887, at Tyler. Mr. and Mrs. Beasley are the parents of two children: Wanda, born June 22, 1906, and Leonard William, born September 9, 1909.

MARTIN PETERSON (1875) is the efficient marshal of the village of Minneota. He is a native of Lyon county and was born in Nordland township September 20, 1875. On a farm in that precinct Martin grew to manhood. When twenty-one years of age he began farming for himself and continued in that work nine years. He then moved to Minneota, where he operated the dray line two years, when he was made marshal of the village, a position he still holds.

On December 28, 1899, Mr. Peterson was married to Clara Johnson, a native of Lyon county. They are the parents of three children: Elmer, Martin and Clifford.

Martin Peterson is a son of Swen and Christina (Amundson) Peterson, natives of Norway who came to the United States when they were very young. Mr. and Mrs. Peterson, Sr., were married in Olmsted county, Minnesota. They came to Lyon county in 1874 and homesteaded in Nordland township, where they still reside. They are the parents of the follow-

ing five children: Tinnie, Martin, Charlie, Andrew, Sophia, Alfred.

HERBERT L. STARR (1881) is a farmer of Monroe township, living on the southwest quarter of section 15, which has been his home since Norman H. Starr, his father, bought the place from the railroad company in 1881.

Norman Henry Starr was born in Roe, Massachusetts, in 1834, and after coming to Lyon county in 1881 he lived on the farm in Monroe township until his death, July 18, 1909. His wife, Martha (Welch) Starr, was born in Washington, Vermont, in July, 1844, and is living with her two sons, Herbert and Samuel, on the farm near Tracy. Another son of Nathan Starr, Fred, is station agent for the Northwestern railroad at New Ulm, and the fourth child, Frank, is now dead. Fred and Frank were twin brothers.

The subject of our sketch was born in Beaver, Winona county, Minnesota, October 25, 1863. He was educated in Winona county and in the Tracy school, and afterward went on the farm with his father, taking charge of the place after the father's death. Herbert has made a specialty of the poultry business for the past twenty years. He raises Barred Plymouth Rocks exclusively and has gained a reputation with the birds, having a sale for them all over the country, and during the last three years being unable to supply the demand. Herbert has attended many of the famous poultry shows and conventions. He is a member of the Presbyterian church of Tracy.

Samuel H. Starr (1880), brother of the above, was born in Winona county March 12, 1866, where he lived until coming to Lyon county with his parents. After making his home on the farm some time the boy commenced railroading at Tracy, serving as call boy first, and later at different times as baggageman, car clerk and brakeman, remaining in the railroad service until five years ago, when he retired to the home farm near Tracy and has been assisting his brother, Herbert, in conducting the place.

OLE H. STERK (1888), civil engineer of Marshall and surveyor of Lyon county, has resided in the county many years. He is a native Norwegian and was born June 3, 1864. After securing a common school education, at the age of seventeen years, he entered the engineering branch of the military college at Thronthjem and was a student there five years, learning civil engineering. He secured his diploma in 1888 and in August of that year he immigrated to America.

The first stopping place of Mr. Sterk in the New World was Cass county, North Dakota, where he remained only a few months. He then took up his residence in Lyon county, where he has ever since resided. For many years he lived on the farm on section 4, Vallers township, and for ten years he served as postmaster of Brenner postoffice, which was located on his place and which had been established in pioneer times. During six years of the time he was residing on the farm Mr. Sterk served as county surveyor, having taken office in 1893. He was also assessor of Vallers township five years and justice of the peace four years.

From the farm Mr. Sterk moved to Minneota and for eight years was in the general merchandise business there. He moved to Marshall in the spring of 1906 to accept the office of city engineer. The same fall he was again elected county surveyor and has since held the office. He is also city engineer of Marshall. Besides his official duties Mr. Sterk makes estimates for ditches, sewers and waterworks systems. He has recently published a valuable wall map of Lyon county, which is one of the most complete and exhaustive maps of the kind in the state.

Mr. Sterk was married at Minneota in 1900 to Bertha Rogde. She was born in Westerheim township, Lyon county, and is the daughter of John Rogde, an early settler. Mr. and Mrs. Sterk have two children, Adelaide and Vigo. Mr. Sterk is a member of the Masonic, Odd Fellows and Woodmen lodges.

Hans and Indiana (Peterson) Sterk were the parents of our subject. They came from Norway in 1891 and for many years resided in Vallers township. In 1908 they moved to Kidder county, North

Dakota, and there Mr. Sterk died in February, 1911, at the age of seventy-eight years. Mrs. Sterk resides in that county. There are three boys in the Sterk family: Ole, of this review; Hartwig and Carl, of Kidder county, North Dakota.

LARS H. ORDLOCK (1888) is half owner of the Hynden store in Florence and is actively engaged in the handling of groceries, dry goods and shoes. The proprietors also handle fresh meats and buy and sell cream.

Lars Ordlock was born in Ringbo, Norway, June 13, 1864, a son of Hans and Mariet (Bredevien) Ordlock. He attended school in the land of his birth until sixteen years of age, coming then to America and locating in Goodhue county, Minnesota. There he worked as a farm hand until 1888, when he came to Lyon county. He worked in Tracy three months and then went to Custer township to work on a farm. During the next three or four years Lars worked in and around Balaton and Garvin at different pursuits, and for six months being employed in the creamery at Balaton and for a year drilling wells in the vicinity. The balance of the time was spent in farming and in threshing in the falls. For nine months our subject drove the stage between Currie and Tracy. About this time Mr. Ordlock made his first investment in land, buying 140 acres in Murray county, but continuing to work in the vicinity of Garvin.

October 29, 1896, Lars Ordlock married Louisa Larson, a native of Fillmore county and a daughter of Bure Larson. The young married couple located in Coon Creek township, where Lars farmed for the next thirteen years. Then he sold and moved to Florence to engage in his present business. While a resident of Custer township Mr. Ordlock was a school officer two years.

Mrs. Lars Ordlock was born June 19, 1877. She and her husband are members of the Norwegian Lutheran church. They have three children: Clara, born August 28, 1897; Bayard, born August 24, 1900; and Lillie, born August 6, 1909.

FERDINAND A. RIVARD (1901) is a farmer and land owner residing in Lake Marshall township. He is a native of Illinois and was born August 21, 1862, a son of George and Adeliade (Drollette) Rivard, both natives of Canada. The latter settled in Illinois in an early day, where our subject received his early education and grew to manhood.

Mr. Rivard resided at home until twenty-two years of age, when he married and farmed rented land two years. He then received eighty acres from his father, which he farmed until 1901. During the latter year he came to Lyon county and purchased the southwest quarter of section 19, Lake Marshall township, where he has since resided. He has a well-improved farm. Mr. Rivard has served several terms on the school board of his district and is a shareholder in the Farmers Elevator Company of Lynd. He is a member of the Catholic church and the Catholic Order of Foresters lodge.

On October 6, 1884, our subject was married to Emelia Vandepoorten, a native of Illinois and a daughter of Joseph and Aurila (Bunker) Vandepoorten. Mrs. Rivard was born January 18, 1862. To Mr. and Mrs. Rivard have been born the following named children: Angeline Alice, born August 22, 1885, died August 5, 1894; Eglantine Henrietta, born October 1, 1886; Eurilia Albertine, born May 8, 1888; Lydia Ella, born February 2, 1891. Mrs. Rivard died July 15, 1891. Mr. Rivard was married a second time February 1, 1893, at Manteno, Illinois, to Clementine Langlois, a native of Kankakee county, Illinois. She was born December 25, 1866, and is a daughter of Napoleon and Ella (Longton) Langlois, both natives of Canada.

W. A. HOUSTON (1895), patentee and founder of the Houston fountain pen, was born June 2, 1872, at Hadley, LaPeer county, Michigan, where he received a common school education, leaving school at the age of seventeen to come West to work on a farm at Manchester, South Dakota, for his brother-in-law. This business he continued for two or three years; then he

farmed on his own account until 1893. Soon after this he learned the barber trade, which business he followed until 1901, operating successfully two shops in Tracy, Minnesota, for several years, one shop consisting of five chairs, bath parlor, cigar stand, etc. He is the former owner of the property where now stands Richard's Department Store, Mr. Richard having purchased the same in 1909. While engaged in the barber business, he worked out the idea of drying the face by compressed air. This is now used in many places and was soon adopted in general by barber supply dealers, and thousands of outfits have been sold.

In the year 1901 Mr. Houston sold his business and went on the road as traveling salesman and was quite successful. After trying several different lines, he took up the fountain pen line, which proved to be the one that pleased him most. In 1908 he received a patent on his first pen and soon after commenced manufacturing the same on the upper floor of his building, one skilled rubber turner and himself conducting the business. The business was continued this way for the first year, its growth being wonderful. In the second year the Houston Pen Company was incorporated with a capital of \$50,000. The business was moved to Opera House Block and some of the best business men bought freely of the stock and put their "shoulders to the wheel."

At this time the company is located at Sioux City, Iowa, has a capital of \$100,000, and is destined to be one of the largest pen manufacturing companies in the world. Tracy business men still hold controlling stock in the company, of which W. A. Houston is president.

EDWARD P. KELLY (1898) is the proprietor of a furniture store and conducts an undertaking establishment in connection at Cottonwood. He is a native of the Gopher State and was born at Mankato November 22, 1873. His parents, Severt and Louisa Kelly, were born in Norway and came to the United States when very young. They were married in Blue Earth county, Minnesota. The mother died in 1894, aged sixty-three years; the father resides at Mankato,

aged seventy-two years. There were four children: Edward P., of this sketch; Louis L., of Minneapolis; Mrs. O. J. Olson, of Mankato; and Mrs. Charles Catlin, of Cottonwood.

When five years of age our subject moved with his parents to a farm west of Lake Crystal and lived there until he reached his majority. He then moved to Madelia, where he conducted a furniture store one year. In 1898 he came to Lyon county and located at Cottonwood, where he engaged in the mercantile business as a member of the firm of Olson, Kelly & Laingen. He was in that firm five years, and then he assisted in the organization of the North Star Implement Company, of which he had charge of the furniture department five years. In 1908 he purchased the furniture department of that company and has since conducted the business alone. He is located in the Prestegard Building and carries a full line of furniture, carpets, pianos and undertaking goods.

Mr. Kelly holds membership in the Masonic, Knights of Pythias and Modern Woodmen lodges. He has served six years on the school board and two terms on the Village Council. He was the organizer of the Home Telephone Company and has since been its general manager and a director, and he was formerly president of the Commercial Club.

Mr. Kelly was married at Mankato December 24, 1897, to Matilda Hanson, a native of Blue Earth county, Minnesota. They are the parents of three children: Olive, Ruth and Edith.

GEORGE REGNIER (1883) is the owner of 240 acres of fine land located on sections 2, 3 and 23, Grandview township, and a modern home in the village of Ghent. He has made his home the past two years on the northeast quarter of section 3, and he farms the entire place with the assistance of his only son Albert.

Our subject is a son of Isaac and Mary (Touchette) Regnier, who were natives of Canada and who came to America in 1847 and settled in Kankakee county, Illinois. They were among the first settlers in that county and became owners of a small farm. They sold their interests there in 1883 and located in Grandview township, Lyon county, where they bought land.

Isaac Regnier died on his farm sixteen years ago, at the age of seventy years; his widow lives in Marshall with her daughter, Mrs. August Durrenberger.

George was born in Kankakee county, Illinois, August 27, 1864, and was brought up and educated in the country schools of that county. He lived with his parents until twenty-one years of age, and in 1883 he and his parents moved to Lyon county and located in Grandview township. A few years later George bought the northwest quarter of section 23 from the railroad company. There he built a small shack and commenced farming. He was married soon after and continued to make his home on the place twenty years—until moving to his present farm in 1910, with the exception of two years, during which time he retired from active farming on account of his health and resided in Ghent. He was one of the incorporators of that village and served on the council one year.

The marriage of George Regnier and Cecile Caron occurred in Ghent November 25, 1891. Mrs. Regnier is a native of Kankakee county, Illinois. By her marriage to Mr. Regnier she became the mother of four children, Denage, Albert, Virginia and Alma.

Our subject is one of ten living children born to Mr. and Mrs. Isaac Regnier. The others are Joseph, Louis, Ambrose, John, Harry, Mary, Florence, Emma and Louise. The Regnier family are members of the Catholic church.

JOHN HARTZELL (1886), proprietor of the Lone Tree Farm of Coon Creek township, was born in Sweden June 15, 1855, the son of Andrew and Nellie (Nelson) Johnson. At twenty years of age he came to the United States and located at Monmouth, Illinois, near which place he worked at farm labor summers and in the coal mines winters for three years. He then went to Chicago, where he worked for the Union Iron & Steel Company five years and for the Pullman Car Company three years.

In 1886 Mr. Hartzell moved to Lyon county and purchased the north half of the northwest quarter of section 27, Coon Creek township. The next year he bought the north half of the northeast quarter of section 28,

of the same township, and was the owner of that land until he sold in 1910. In 1897 he purchased the south half of the southwest quarter of section 22, and he is now the owner of 160 acres of Coon Creek's fertile soil.

Upon his arrival to Lyon county in 1886 Mr. Hartzell lived for nine months on the Charley Swanson place on section 32. Then he moved to Burchard and for the next two years worked for the Northwestern Railroad Company. During the next three years he rented the Carl Hanson farm on section 21, also farming his own place during that time. At the end of that time he built on his own farm and has ever since lived thereon. His place is now known as the Lone Tree Farm.

Mr. Hartzell was married at Pullman, Illinois, in 1883 to Emily Magnusen, who was born in Sweden December 14, 1867. She is a daughter of John and Mary (Bjork) Magnusen. Mr. and Mrs. Hartzell are the parents of the following named eight children: Annie, Joseph, Winnie, Edith, Adolph, George, Irene and Earl.

NELS ANDERSON (1882) owns 600 acres of land in Eidsvold township and he and his sons farm it all. The home place is the southwest quarter of section 10 and he owns in addition 160 acres on section 2, eighty acres on section 11, 120 acres on section 9 and eighty acres on section 16. Mr. Anderson has an exceptionally fine farm and is one of the big farmers of Eidsvold township, being rated among the substantial men of northwestern Lyon county.

The birth of Nels Anderson occurred in Denmark November 16, 1857, one of two sons born to Nels and Sophia Anderson. His parents are deceased. His brother is Rasmus Anderson, of Vernon county, Wisconsin. In 1872 Nels accompanied his parents to America. He lived in Allamakee county, Iowa, a few years and in Brookings county, South Dakota, a few years, and in 1882 became a resident of Lyon county. At that time he bought the home quarter section of his farm, which at that time contained as the only improvement a little shack built by a man who took the land as a tree claim. Mr. Anderson has lived on that farm thirty years and has prospered exceedingly.

Mr. Anderson was married in Eidsvold



HOME OF NELS ANDERSON

Who Has Lived on This Farm in Eidsvold Township Thirty Years.



MR. AND MRS. JOHN HARTZELL

Of Coon Creek Township, From a Photograph Taken When They Started Farming.



township in the fall of 1880 to Mary Fodness. She was born in Norway and came to the United States when a child. The family came to Lyon county in the early seventies. Following are the names of the children of Mr. and Mrs. Anderson: John, who farms a quarter section of his father's land; Carl, a banker of Aneta, North Dakota; Rasmus, who farms another of his father's farms; Edwin, who lives at home; and Sophia, a graduate of the Madison Normal School. The family are members of the Norwegian Lutheran church of Minneota and Mr. Anderson has stock in the Farmers Elevator Company of Minneota.

SWAN A. DILLBERG (1897) is a prominent farmer and stockman of Coon Creek township and has resided in that township fifteen years. He owns the west half of section 25, a short distance from the village of Russell.

Mr. Dillberg was born in Sweden September 13, 1857, the son of Anders and Matilda (Swanson) Dillberg, both of whom are buried in their native land. Swan was brought up on his father's farm and received his education in the Swedish schools. He served one year in the standing army and for four years belonged to a corps of sharpshooters.

In 1881 Mr. Dillberg came to America, and from that time until he came to Lyon county in 1897 he resided in the city of Chicago. During those years he was employed by the Union Steel Mills Company, Blake Brothers Company, Gem Machine Repair Company, the Woolfolk Manufacturing Grading Machine and Dumping Box Company, and for two years was employed on the World's Fair buildings.

The year of arrival to Lyon county was 1897. For three years Mr. Dillberg rented and farmed the southeast quarter of section 31, Coon Creek township, and then moved to his present farm, which he had bought the year previous. He has a modern house and a fine set of outbuildings, all the improvements having been made by our subject. He raises considerable stock, and for the past eleven years he has bought and shipped stock. He owns stock in the Farmers Elevator Company of Russell and in the Farmers Telephone Company, having been one

of the organizers and a director of the latter. Mr. Dillberg affiliates with the Swedish Lutheran church and the Woodmen and Workmen lodges.

The marriage of Mr. Dillberg to Dorethy Swanson occurred in Sweden on October 10, 1878. Their children are named Ernest, Fred, Harry, Gertie, Rose, Otto and Salma.

CHARLES A. LAUDENSLAGER (1878), in partnership with his father and brother, is engaged in the saloon and ice business in Marshall. That city has been his home since he was a boy seven years of age.

The father of our subject is John J. Laudenslager. He is a native of Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, and a veteran of the Civil War. He enlisted in Company C, Fiftieth Pennsylvania Volunteers, and served with the eastern army. He was discharged on account of injury, located in St. Paul, and later enlisted in the Fifth Minnesota Volunteers. After the war he located in New Ulm, where he was married and where he resided until locating in Marshall in 1877. Upon his arrival in Marshall the elder Mr. Laudenslager founded the Pioneer saloon on the site of the present building and has since conducted the same—at the present time in partnership with his sons, Charles A. and Richard S. Another child of the family is Alice (Mrs. Herman Guttman), of Mankato. Addie died when fifteen months of age.

Charles A. Laudenslager was born in New Ulm September 8, 1871, and when seven years of age he located with his parents in Marshall. He was educated in the public schools of that city and after growing up engaged with his father in the saloon business and ice business. The pioneer building was destroyed by fire in November, 1892, and the next year it was replaced by the present two-story building. The ice business was established in an early day from a small beginning. There were only four customers when the business was established and delivery was made in a hand cart.

The subject of this review is not married. He makes his home with his parents. He is a member of the Odd Fellows order.

WILLIAM SCHULTZ (1884) is a farmer residing in Lynd township. He is a native

of Lyon county and was born at Marshall June 10, 1884. The father of our subject was Julius Schultz, an early resident of the county who died several years ago.

William received his early education in Marshall, where he attended school until fifteen years of age. He then worked at farm labor until twenty-four years of age; later he rented a farm and "batched" for two years. In March, 1911, the subject of our sketch rented the A. J. Tucker farm in Lynd township, which he operated one year and then moved to the C. R. Madden farm in the same township. Besides farming Mr. Schultz engages in stock raising, including Durham cattle and grade hogs. He is a successful farmer and stock raiser.

On March 9, 1910, Mr. Schultz was united in marriage to Elsie Lahman at Wautoma, Wisconsin. Mrs. Schultz is a daughter of Fred Lahman and was born January 25, 1890, at Wautoma.

ARTHUR J. MCGINN (1881) is the proprietor of a cigar factory in Minneota. He was born in New York February 21, 1875.

In May, 1881, Arthur accompanied his parents to Lyon county and located in Westminster township, where the father had purchased land. He resided on the farm and worked for his father until the latter's death in 1889. He then took charge of the farm, having bought the interests of the other heirs. He continued farming until 1899, when he moved to Minneota and learned the cigar maker's trade under his brother, James, who is now a county commissioner. He worked for his brother until 1908 and then worked for L. T. Thompson until the following spring.

In the spring of 1909 our subject purchased the Exchange Cafe and conducted it until May, 1911. On the latter date, in company with M. J. Moore, he purchased the L. T. Thompson cigar factory. The following August he purchased Mr. Moore's interest and has since conducted the factory under his own name. Mr. McGinn holds membership in the Modern Woodmen, Knights of Columbus, Catholic Order of Foresters and Yeomen lodges.

At Seaforth, Minnesota, November 26, 1901, occurred the marriage of Mr. McGinn to Laura Cassady, a native of Lyon county. She

is a daughter of Ed. and Stella Cassady. Mr. and Mrs. McGinn have one child, Arthur J.

The man whose name heads this sketch is a son of Patrick and Sarah (McBeth) McGinn, the former a native of Ireland and the latter of New York City. Both are deceased, the father having been killed on his farm in 1889 by a well caving in on him. The mother died in May, 1890. They were the parents of nine children, as follows: Mary Ellen Grossburger of New York; Sarah Ellis, of New York City; James, of Minneota; Rachael Lumphrey, of Beardsley, Minnesota; Rosabelle Walsh, of Bloomington, Illinois; Maggie Cassady, of Saskatchewan, Canada; Susie Schaeffer, of New York; Arthur J., Frances E. Milton, of New York City.

SOLOMON GREELEY (1898). One of the largest landholders in Lyon county is Solomon Greeley, who lives on the northwest quarter of section 23, Sodus township. He is the owner, together with his sons, of 1180 acres of land in Lyon county. He is a veteran of the Civil War, having enlisted February 3, 1864, served two years and three months, and having been discharged at Selma, Alabama.

Solomon Greeley was born in Green county, Wisconsin, on December 3, 1847, a son of Solomon and Charity Arville (Chaffee) Greeley, natives of Vermont. They settled in Wisconsin in an early day. When our subject was only two years of age his mother died. In 1861 he accompanied his father to Worth county, Iowa, where he resided until he enlisted in the Civil War. At the close of the war he returned to Worth county, rented land, and resided there several years. Then he moved to Winnebago county, Iowa, where he bought land and farmed until 1898, the year of his arrival to Lyon county. He lived on section 27, Sodus township, until 1909, at which time he moved to his present residence, the northwest quarter of section 23, Sodus township. He is a member of the Yeomen lodge and has served one term on the township board. He is a stockholder and a director of the Amiret State Bank.

On January 31, 1871, Mr. Greeley was united in marriage to Eudora S. Boynton, a native of Windsor county, Vermont, and a daughter of Freeman and Lois (Gannett) Boynton, also natives of Vermont. Mrs.

Greeley was born March 10, 1851. Mr. and Mrs. Greeley are the parents of the following children: George, F., Walter E., Otis M., Ray O. and Hazel M.

BERT L. ENGLISH (1888) is the editor and publisher of the Tracy Headlight, the successor of one of the early established papers of that city. He was born in Waseca county, Minnesota, September 26, 1883, the son of Michael and Matilda (Boydell) English, natives of Vermont and Massachusetts, respectively, and now residents of Tracy.

In 1888 Bert accompanied the family to Tracy, resided there five years, and then returned with his parents to Waseca, where he remained several years. Returning to Tracy, Mr. English grew to manhood in that city. He received his education in the Tracy High School and during his school days learned the printer's trade in the office of the Tracy Republican, securing his first taste of newspaper work that was destined to shape his career.

When twenty years of age, in 1903, Mr. English went to Rolla, North Dakota, and took a position as bookkeeper in the State Bank of Rolla. Later he was assistant cashier of the Farmers Bank of Garrison, North Dakota, and later still was cashier of the Citizens State Bank of Douglas, North Dakota.

In the spring of 1908 Mr. English gave up the banking business to engage in newspaper work. He moved to Parkers Prairie, Minnesota, bought the Independent, and edited it until he moved to Tracy in May, 1910. At that time he purchased the Republican, on which he had learned his trade, changed the name to Headlight, and has since presided over its destinies. The Headlight is a Progressive Republican paper. Mr. English has been president of the Tracy Commercial Club for the past two years. He is a member of the M. W. A. and K. of C. lodges.

Mr. English was married to Rosella J. Mich at Rochester, Minnesota, on June 23, 1908. She was born in Olmsted county, Minnesota. Mr. and Mrs. English have one child, Dorothy, born at Parkers Prairie June 9, 1909.

REINIER J. BOT (1886) owns and farms 300 acres of Grandview township's

best farm land and makes his home on the northwest quarter of section 22, where he has a very comfortable dwelling.

It was in Holland that our subject first saw the light of day, and the date of his birth was October 23, 1866. The boy was brought up on his father's farm, attended the country schools, and did his share of the farm work. In 1886 the family came to this country and the father bought land from B. F. Jellison in Lyon county. The boy was twenty years of age when the family located on the south half of section 11, Grandview township, and he made his home with his parents until he was married in 1896.

In November of that year he married Julia Maertens, the wedding occurring in Ghent. His wife is a native of Belgium. To this union nine children have been born, Henry, William, Anna, Edward, Ida, Emma, Bertha, Alfonsis and Maria.

After his marriage Mr. Bot bought a quarter section of land three miles south of Minneota and made that his home seven years—until buying his present farm nine years ago. He is conducting his farm with profit and is one of the community's progressive citizens. Mr. Bot and his wife are members of the Catholic church.

The subject of this sketch is a son of William H. and Debora (Schroeder) Bot. The father died on his Grandview township farm in 1907 and the mother lives in Ghent with her son Hero. The elder Bots were the parents of the following children: Hero, Bernard, Reinier J., Cathrena, Henry, John and William.

JAMES A. McNIVEN (1883), vice president of the Marshall State Bank, is an early day settler of Southwestern Minnesota and has been a resident of Marshall for nearly thirty years. He was born in Bruce county, Ontario, Canada, August 14, 1862, the son of Malcolm C. and Mary (McIntyre) McNiven. The father was born in Scotland, the mother in Pictou, Nova Scotia.

When our subject was a child, in 1873, the family moved to Redwood county, Minnesota, where the father homesteaded land. On the paternal farm James A. McNiven grew to manhood, securing an edu-

cation in the public schools and in Curtis Business College. At the age of twenty-one years he started out in life for himself, moving to Marshall in 1883. For two years he was a traveling salesman for the Marder Bushell & Glessner Company, of Chicago, and for three years traveled for the Plano Harvester Company and the Easterly Machine Company.

In 1889 Mr. McNiven entered into partnership with D. D. Forbes in the real estate, loans, collections and insurance business, with offices over the Lyon County Bank, a business with which he was connected for many years. In the fall of 1905 S. Odell bought the interests of Mr. Forbes and the business was continued under the firm name of Odell & McNiven. On June 1, 1909, Messrs. Odell and McNiven, in partnership with S. J. Forbes, established the Marshall State Bank, taking over the business of the real estate firm. The officers of the bank are as follows: S. Odell, president; James A. McNiven, vice president; S. J. Forbes, cashier.

Mr. McNiven is affiliated with several Masonic orders—the Blue Lodge, Chapter, Knight Templar and Shrine.

LINCOLN L. ANDERSON (1887) is one of the largest farmers in the southern part of the county, renting the southeast quarter of section 12 in Rock Lake, upon which he makes his home, and farming in addition other land in Rock Lake, Sodus and Custer townships, bringing up his total farming acreage to 600 acres.

Mr. Anderson is a Lyon county product, having been born December 14, 1887, in Custer township. His parents, Charles A. and Mary (Erickson) Anderson, pioneer settlers of Custer township, are now residing on their farm in Rock Lake, near Balaton. Lincoln attended the country school in his district in Sodus when a boy and at the age of nineteen years he engaged in farming on the quarter section in 12, where he now lives. Our subject devotes much of his time to the raising of Hereford cattle, Chester White swine and sheep.

Lincoln Anderson is a member of the Modern Woodmen lodge of Balaton. He

was married June 2, 1909, in Custer township, to Lorenta Gifford, a native of Lyon county. Her parents, George B. and Ruth (Hughes) Gifford, were pioneer residents of Custer. Mrs. Anderson was born December 16, 1888.

EYOLFUR BJORNSON (1880), Westerheim township farmer, was born in Iceland July 20, 1850. He came to America in 1880 and his home has ever since been in Lyon county. He worked out one year and in 1881 he bought the northwest quarter of section 16, Westerheim township, upon which he has ever since had his home.

At that time there were very few residents in his neighborhood, among them Joseph Josephson, A. Hellickson and the Orsens. Mr. Bjornson added to his original farm by the purchase of the east half of the northeast quarter of section 17, and he has one of the best improved farms in the neighborhood. His home, erected in 1905, is one of the finest in the county. Mr. Bjornson feeds cattle and hogs and raises sheep.

The marriage of Mr. Bjornson to Gudrun Goodmanson occurred in Iceland in October, 1875. They have one child, Adalbjorn, born February 8, 1888. He lives at home and assists in the management of the farm. The family are members of the Lutheran church.

WILHELM BURNS (1885) conducts a harness shop and restaurant in the village of Balaton. He was born in Sweden June 2, 1876, and when nine years of age came to the United States and settled in Balaton. There he has resided since, with the exception of seven years spent in Rock Lake township. He is a son of John and Carrie Burns, the former of Murray county and the latter of Balaton. They are the parents of seven children: Sadie, Wilhelm, Ray, Vira, Anna, Alma and Lida.

In 1903 the subject of this review opened a restaurant and confectionery store in Balaton, which he has since conducted. He operated a harness shop in Marshall for several months, purchasing from Tom Johnson, later moved the stock and tools to Balaton, and has since conducted a harness shop in connection with the restaurant. Mr. Burns is local agent for the Albert Lea Gas Light

Company, the American Gas Machine Company of Albert Lea, and the Bolte & Weyer Gas Light Company of Chicago. He is a member of the Modern Woodmen and Yeomen lodges.

Mr. Burns was married on November 24, 1910, to Fannie Stowe, of St. Paul, Minnesota. Mrs. Burns is a native of Minnesota.

HANS L. OFTEDAL (1891) is one of the prosperous farmers and land owners of Valters township. He was born in Stavanger, Norway, November 10, 1864. His father, Ludvig G. Oftedal, was a blacksmith by trade and followed farming also. His mother was Karn (Nesse) Oftedal.

Hans was twenty-one years old in 1885 and at that time he severed his home ties and immigrated to the United States. He worked at odd jobs in Minneapolis two years, spent one year in Dakota county, Minnesota, and then located in Yellow Medicine county, where he worked out until 1891. That is the year of his arrival to Lyon county. He purchased 160 acres of his present farm on sections 26 and 27, Valters township, and has ever since resided there. He added to his farm by purchase and is now the owner of 280 acres. He raises improved Yorkshire hogs and grade cattle.

Mr. Oftedal has been active in local affairs. He served several years as a member of the Township Board of Supervisors and has been treasurer of his township, as well as treasurer of school district No. 71. He is a member of the United Lutheran church.

In Goodhue county, Minnesota, on March 23, 1898, Mr. Oftedal was married to Matilda Johnson. She was born in Red Wing, Minnesota, October 3, 1871. Her parents, Ole and Louise Johnson, were born in Sweden and now live in Goodhue county. Mr. and Mrs. Oftedal have four children: Hazel L., born November 22, 1899; Francis L., born July 14, 1901; Raymond L., born October 8, 1903; and Morris H., born November 17, 1905.

BURL STORY (1878), agent for the John Gund Brewing Company at Marshall, is one of the pioneer settlers and homesteaders of Lyon county, having resided here for the past thirty-four years. He is the son of

Hulet and Emma (Glidden) Story, natives of New York State, and he was born at Janesville, Wisconsin, on the fourth day of December, 1855.

On a farm near Janesville Mr. Story was brought up, and he resided there until coming to Lyon county in 1878 at the age of twenty-one years. He bought railroad land on section 15, Grandview township, adjoining the village of Ghent. He built a little shack on the place and made his home there until 1880, when he moved the building to Ghent, which at that time had only one other building of any importance, a grocery store conducted by Jerry Fagan. After moving the building Mr. Story built an addition and during the next six years conducted a hotel, the first in the village. The building is now a part of the Ed. Gits store building.

Mr. Story sold his hotel to a Mr. Paradis and bought a claim on the southwest quarter of section 32, Stanley township. He proved up on the place and resided there about ten years, moving to Marshall at the end of that time and erecting a home in the city. During the next few years he conducted a machine shop and served one year as chief of police. His wife died in 1900 and the next year Mr. Story went to Alaska, where he spent some time mining and prospecting. Since his return he has lived in Marshall, one year serving as chief of police and since as distributing agent for the John Gund Brewing Company. Mr. Story is a member of the Elks lodge. In Stanley township he was a member of the Board of Supervisors.

At Janesville, Wisconsin, on September 13, 1877, Mr. Story was married to Henrietta Zimmerman, a native of that place. The date of her death was August, 1899. Two children were born as a result of this union: Laura (Mrs. James Ladenberg), of Lyon county, and Roy, who died in California in 1896 at the age of seventeen years.

GUST M. BAERT (1892) is a farmer of Lynd township and a true lover of Lyon county. Mr. Baert is a native of Belgium and was born December 29, 1867, a son of Constand and Mary (Haas) Baert. The father died in 1870 of smallpox; the mother still lives at the old home in East Flanders.

Gust Baert received his early education in the land of his nativity, where he attended

school until fifteen years of age. He then worked for his parents on the farm until twenty-three years old. On February 7, 1891, he left Antwerp for America and arrived at South Bend, Indiana, February 23. He worked in the Oliver plow factory one year and then came to Lyon county and worked on a farm near Ghent one year. After spending about two months in Montana and Idaho, looking over the country, Mr. Baert returned to Ghent, where he resumed his labors on the farm for one year. At the close of that year's work he left America, going to London and thence to Belgium and other parts of Europe, traveling three months. He then returned to America and located at Moline, Illinois, where he worked for the Mutual Wheel Company for a year and then returned to Lyon county, where he has since resided.

Mr. Baert operates 487 acres of land in Lynd township. He also raises considerable stock, including Duroc-Jersey hogs, Red Polled Angus cattle and Plymouth Rock chickens, and he is a stockholder of the Farmers Elevator Company of Lynd. He is a member of the Catholic church and the Catholic Order of Foresters. Mr. Baert was road overseer two years in Lynd township.

At Moline, Illinois, December 11, 1895, occurred the marriage of our subject to Hurbertina Cuipers, a daughter of Henrick Cuipers, who died in North Dakota in 1908. Mrs. Cuipers resides at Edgeley, North Dakota. Mrs. Baert was born in Belgium. To Mr. and Mrs. Baert have been born the following eleven children: Harry, Frank, John, Matilda, Victor, Camial, Alfons, Louise, Valerie, Lizzie and Rosa. All reside at home with their parents.

**WILLIAM HALL (1899).** One of the most prosperous farmers of Lyon county is William Hall, of Shelburne township. He was born in Belfast, Ireland, July 15, 1859, and is the son of Robert and Mary (Hannah) Hall, both deceased. The first twenty-seven years of our subject's life were spent with his parents. Until fifteen years of age he attended school in and near Chicago. The other twelve years were spent assisting his father on the farm. After his father's death he rented the old home farm near Chicago and operated it until 1899.

In the fall of 1888 Mr. Hall purchased a

quarter section of land in Shelburne township. In 1899 he moved with his family to that farm and they have resided there since. In 1906 he purchased forty-five acres adjoining his land from the railroad company, making him the owner of over 200 acres of Lyon county land. Mr. Hall raises considerable stock, including Poland China hogs, Hereford cattle, Plymouth Rock chickens, Clyde, Belgian and Norman horses. He is a member of the Modern Woodmen and of the Blue Lodge and Chapter of the Masonic orders. He has been treasurer of school district No. 49 for twelve years and was justice of the peace in Shelburne township two years.

On March 18, 1889, Mr. Hall was united in marriage to Mary E. Templeton, a daughter of Richard Templeton, of Kankakee county, Illinois. She was born May 23, 1869. Mr. and Mrs. Hall are the parents of the following named children: Robert, born January 19, 1892; Richard, born July 30, 1894; Annie, born April 24, 1900; Viola, born March 17, 1903. All reside at home.

Mr. Hall has three brothers and two sisters, as follows: James, of Balaton; John, of Iowa; Robert, of Battle Creek, Michigan; Mary (Mrs. John Nixon), of Balaton; Belle (Mrs. Frank Snow), of Momence, Illinois.

**DR. C. B. FRASER (1903)** is a dentist of Cottonwood. He is a native of Woodstock, Ontario, Canada, where he was born June 23, 1879. His parents are Angus and Anna (Dunn) Fraser, the former a native of Iverness, Scotland, and the latter of Kingston, Ontario, Canada. They reside at Woodstock and have three children, as follows: Dr. C. B., of this sketch; George, an express agent for the Dominion Express Company for Wayburn, Manitoba; and Blanch (Mrs. Roy Brown), of Ingersoll, Canada.

Our subject received his schooling in the Woodstock Academy, from which he was graduated in 1900. He then attended the University of Toronto's Dental Department two years, after which he attended the Chicago Dental College, graduating in 1903.

In the last named year Dr. Fraser came to Lyon county and located at Cottonwood, where he has since been engaged in the practice of his profession. He is a member

of the Masonic and Modern Woodmen lodges.

At St. Louis, Missouri, June 28, 1904, occurred the marriage of Dr. Fraser to Camille Brownell, a native of Westplains, Missouri. They are the parents of four children: Donald G., Edward A., Scott B. and Frank C.

JOHN R. CASTLE (1883) is the owner of 200 acres of the land in Clifton township originally purchased by his father upon coming to the county in 1883. He raises considerable stock and has made a success of his farming operations. It was in 1899 that John Castle rented land of his father in Clifton township and started farming for himself. He farmed the rented land two years and then bought a quarter section from his father. Later he added an additional forty acres, giving him his present acreage.

Our subject was born in Will county, Illinois, July 9, 1875. His parents, Robert and Agnes (Watson) Castle, natives of England and Scotland, respectively, came to the United States in an early day and settled in Illinois. When John was a lad of eight years the family moved to Lyon county and located in Clifton township, and John was brought up on the farm.

The father originally owned the entire south half of section 26, which he later sold, and then he bought 560 acres on section 21, and forty acres on section 28. John attended the country school and helped with the farm work and in time came to be the owner of part of the land originally owned by his father. Our subject was a member of the school board of district No. 81 and clerk of that body three years. He is a member of the Presbyterian church and his fraternal allegiance is with the Yeomen lodge.

The ceremony which joined John Castle and Hattie I. Mead in the holy bonds of matrimony was performed in the township January 1, 1901. His wife was born in Lyon county November 30, 1880, and is a daughter of Henry and Fannie (Moulton) Mead, natives of Wisconsin and Minnesota, respectively. The father died in 1911 and the mother lives in the township. To Mr. and Mrs. John Castle have been born three children: Gilbert G., born November 23, 1901;

Maud E., born March 8, 1906; and Fern L., born January 7, 1912.

J. S. LEAS (1900) is a successful farmer of Stanley township, where he has lived for the past twelve years. He owns the south-east quarter of section 10. Mr. Leas has a fine set of buildings, erected in 1902, and a well improved farm in other ways. He engages quite extensively in stock raising, making a specialty of full-blooded Chester White hogs.

Iowa is the birthplace of Mr. Leas and June 6, 1869, is the date of his nativity. His parents, Jeremiah and Susana (Henderson) Leas, were both born in Ohio, the former in 1827, the later in 1828. Until he was twenty-one years of age our subject attended school. During the next three years he worked on the farm for his father and then started in the business for himself.

In 1899 Mr. Leas bought his Lyon county farm and the following year he took possession. Most of the improvements on the place were made by him. Mr. Leas is a member of the Presbyterian church of Swan Lake and he has held the office of treasurer of school district No. 34 for five years.

J. S. Leas and Hester Olive Kelly were married at Waukon, Iowa, in 1894. The parents of Mrs. Leas, John and Jane Kelly, are dead. The following named six children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Leas: Leo, born April 7, 1895; Lauren Reid, born February 1, 1899; Glen Vernon, born January 16, 1903; Velva Ruth, born December 30, 1905; Beryl Wayne, born September 11, 1909; Cecil Eugene, born March 24, 1911.

MONTGOMERY E. DRAKE (1897) is the register of deeds of Lyon county. He was born in Wright township, Hillsdale county, Michigan, July 31, 1869. In his native county he grew to manhood and secured his education. At the age of twenty-two years he went to Faulk county, South Dakota, took a homestead claim, and taught school four years.

Mr. Drake came to Lyon county in 1897. He located in Minnesota and for several years was in the employ of Bingham Brothers, grain brokers. Upon the death of S. N. Harrington, the register of deeds, in Septem-

ber, 1903, Mr. Drake was appointed to fill the vacancy, and he has ever since held the office. While a resident of Minneota he served as village recorder and clerk and as treasurer of the Board of Education. He was one of the organizers and incorporators of the Farmers and Merchants National Bank of Minneota and for a number of years was a director of the same.

Our subject is affiliated with a number of worthy fraternal orders. He is a member of the Blue Lodge and Chapter of the Masonic orders and has filled all the chairs of the last named, including high priest. He is a member of the Eastern Star and for three years was its worthy patron. He also holds membership in the M. W. A. lodge and the Methodist church. At Minneota he was secretary of the Masonic lodge.

Mr. Drake was married at Hudson, Michigan, March 31, 1892, to Hattie L. Masters, who was born at Pioneer, Ohio, just over the Michigan line. Seven children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Drake, of whom the following named three are living: Mildred, Aileen and Vivian.

The parents of our subject are Alonzo H. and Laura A. (Thorne) Drake, natives, respectively, of Michigan and New York and of English descent. Besides M. E. Drake, there are three children in the family, namely: Morton B., of Pittsford, Michigan; Ethel, of Hudson, Michigan; and Louise (Mrs. F. W. Burt), of Pittsford, Michigan.

MICHAEL F. AHERN (1883) is cashier of the State Bank of Taunton and one of the prominent citizens of that village. He owns an elegant home in Taunton and 480 acres of Lyon county soil. For the past six years he has been treasurer of the village.

Mr. Ahern is a native of Springfield, Illinois, and was born September 15, 1876. When a child, in 1883, he came to Lyon county with his parents and lived on the farm on section 8, Eidsvold, until fifteen years old. During the next four years he was a student of the Marshall school and then for three years was manager of the Western Elevator Company at Taunton. He spent three years as assistant cashier of the Farmers & Merchants Bank of Minneota and then in 1905 organized the State Bank of Taunton, of which he has since been cashier.

Mr. Ahern married Alice G. Langan at Minneota on June 27, 1906. She is a native of Westerheim township and is the daughter of Pat Langan, one of the early settlers of that precinct. Mr. and Mrs. Ahern have three daughters: Genevieve, Catherine and Dorothy. Our subject is a member of the Knights of Columbus, Catholic Order of Foresters and Modern Woodmen lodges.

The parents of Mr. Ahern, Garrett A. and Catherine A. (Brown) Ahern, came from Ireland in the fifties and were married in Illinois. They came to Lyon county in 1883 and he died on the farm in Eidsvold in 1899, at the age of sixty-seven years. Mrs. Ahern lives with a son on the Eidsvold farm. In the family are the following named ten children: Philip P., of Taunton; Josie, William, Ellen (Mrs. Thomas Welch), of Minneota; James J., Michael F., of this review; Catherine (Mrs. Morris Breen), of Minneapolis; Thomas, assistant cashier of the Farmers Bank of Hampden, North Dakota; Garrett F., of Montana; and Annie.

LARS F. MONSETH (1897) is the owner of a 240-acre fertile farm on sections 5 and 8, Nordland township, and is one of the substantial men of his precinct.

He was born in Orkdalen, Norway, October 1, 1872, a son of Frederick F. and Ellen (Larson) Roe, both of whom are still living in their native land. Lars attended school until fifteen years of age and then worked out on the farm until he came to America in 1895.

Upon his arrival to the New World in the spring of that year, he located in Minneapolis and spent the summer working in a lumber yard. The next winter he was in the woods near Eau Claire, Wisconsin; then he went back to Minneapolis and again took employment in a lumber yard. He took a course in Wreeman's Academy, Minneapolis, during the winter of 1896-97 and the next spring became a resident of Lyon county.

For eight months Mr. Monseth was employed on the farm of C. K. Melby, who then lived in Nordland township, and the next winter was again spent in the Wisconsin woods. In St. Paul he was a motorman in the employ of the St. Paul Street Railway Company for six months. He came back to

Lyon county in September, 1898, and has ever since resided here.

Mr. Monseth rented land near Minneota three years and then bought his present farm in Nordland. He has a well-improved farm and is a successful agriculturist. He gives a great deal of attention to raising Short-horn cattle and blooded Duroc-Jersey swine and has fine herds. His other business interests consist of an interest in the Farmers Elevator Company of Minneota.

For the past ten years Mr. Monseth has been treasurer of school district No. 24 and he served as road overseer of his district one year. He is an enthusiastic church worker, being a member of Hemnes Norwegian Lutheran Church of Nordland township. He is president of the board of trustees of that organization and is choir master.

Mr. Monseth was married at Minneapolis October 21, 1898, to Marit Metlie, who was born in Norway November 13, 1873. They have five children: Elvina, born May 18, 1900; Cora, born April 24, 1903; Frithjof, born December 18, 1904; Lillian, born September 30, 1906; Mildred, born June 4, 1909.

CHARLES R. LAINGEN (1898) is the junior member of the firm of Grieve & Laingen, general merchants of Cottonwood. He was born in Blue Earth county, near Lake Crystal, May 26, 1872, and resided there until twenty-six years of age. When seventeen years of age he became a clerk in a general store at Lake Crystal and then worked six years for the Northwestern Railroad Company.

The parents of our subject are Peter K. and Ronaug (Loftsgaard) Laingen, natives of Norway. Peter K. Laingen came to the United States in 1860 and resided in California ten years. In 1870 he moved to Blue Earth county, Minnesota, where he bought land and was married. He resided in that county until his death on December 16, 1911. The mother died in 1873.

In 1898 our subject came to Lyon county and located at Cottonwood, where he entered the firm of Olson, Kelly & Laingen, general merchants. In 1902 he bought out John Michie, of the firm of Michie & Grieve, and the firm has since been Grieve & Laingen. Michie & Grieve were the successors of Dahl Brothers, the original owners of one

of the first stores in Cottonwood. They occupied a little building, 25x40 feet, on the site of the present two-story brick building, which is 26x80 feet and which they erected that spring. Grieve & Laingen handle dry goods, groceries, furnishings, shoes and crockery. They entered their present building in 1904. Mr. Laingen is a member of Equity Lodge No. 221, A. F. & A. M. He was village recorder two terms.

Mr. Laingen was married in Minneapolis May 14, 1908, to Anna Pettersen, a native of Blue Earth county.

ANDREW ANDERSON (1890) is the owner of the southwest quarter of section 27, Coon Creek township, where he has resided for twenty-two years. He was born in Sweden December 5, 1851. His parents are Peter and Ellen (Olson) Anderson, with whom he resided in the old country until 1882, attending school and learning the cabinet-maker's and housebuilding trades, which he followed several years.

In 1882 Mr. Anderson came to the United States and located in Chicago, where he worked eight years for the Pullman Car Company. In 1890 he immigrated to Lyon county, having purchased the southwest quarter of section 27, Coon Creek township, in 1884. He has made all the improvements on the place and has a very comfortable home. He raises a great number of cattle and hogs and has stock in the Farmers Elevator Company and Farmers Telephone Company of Russell. Mr. Anderson is a member of the Swedish Baptist church.

Mr. Anderson was married in Sweden March 6, 1874, to Elna Nelson, a daughter of Pehr Nelson and Hanna Nelson. Mrs. Anderson was born September 9, 1850, and died in 1900. To Mr. and Mrs. Anderson were born five children: Peter, John, Emily, Olive and Hattie.

G. J. INHOFER (1906) is a merchant and manager of the Western Grain Elevator at Ghent. He is a native of the Gopher State and was born in Nicollet county July 8, 1870. The parents of our subject are George and Agnes (Michels) Inhofer, natives of Germany, the former of Bavaria and the latter of Saxony. They came to the United

States in 1856. The father resided in New York two years and in 1858 moved to Nicollet county, where he settled on railroad land and was married. They farmed until 1910, when they retired and moved to New Ulm. They are the parents of the following children: George, of this sketch; Joseph and Louis, of Nicollet county; John, of Brown county; William, Mary and Annie, of New Ulm. Two sons, Michael and Charles, are deceased.

Our subject grew to manhood on his father's farm in Nicollet county and later farmed in that county for himself. In November, 1906, he came to Lyon county and settled at Ghent, where he formed a partnership with W. C. Hess in the general merchandise business. They carry dry goods, groceries, men's furnishings and shoes. Mr. Inhofer has been manager of the Western Grain Elevator since August, 1909. He is village recorder and was a member of the Village Council one term. He is a member of the Catholic church and of St. Joseph's Benevolent Society of Minnesota.

Mr. Inhofer was married in Nicollet county February 22, 1895, to Annie Huelskamp, a native of that county. Mr. and Mrs. Inhofer are the parents of the following children: Raymond, Alice, Agnes, Mildred and Beatrice.

**WILLIAM GROVER SHEQUEN (1887)** was born and brought up in Lyon county and since 1908 has been one of the farmers of Custer township.

William N. Shequen and Vesta (Grover) Shequen, the father and mother of our subject, were among the early settlers of Lyon county. The father is a native of Vermont and the mother of Wisconsin. The parents located in Lyon county in 1872, taking as a homestead the northeast quarter of section 32, Sodus township.

William Grover Shequen was born on the Sodus township farm and was there brought up, receiving his education in the country school and assisting with the farm work as he grew older. In 1908 he purchased the land in Custer township on which he has since resided. Mr. Shequen has been raising some stock in addition to his general farming, and makes a specialty of Berkshire hogs.

Our subject was married in Sodus town-

ship to Nellie E. Moore, the ceremony taking place July 29, 1908. One child, Milo Grover Shequen, was born to this union, December 2, 1911. Mrs. Shequen was born in Ida county, Iowa, February 10, 1888, and is a daughter of Frank P. and Katie Machemer Moore, natives of Ohio and Pennsylvania, respectively.

Mr. Shequen served as director of school district No. 37 one year. Fraternally he is allied with the Modern Woodmen lodge. He and his wife are members of the Methodist church.

**FRED S. COOK (1896)** is the proprietor of Hotel Atlantic in Marshall, and under his direction the Atlantic has become one of the popular hostleries of Southwestern Minnesota. Mr. Cook took charge of the hotel in 1896, and the genial good nature of a veteran railway passenger conductor was instilled into the management, gaining for the proprietor a host of friends among the traveling public and in his home city.

Our subject was born in Oberlin, Ohio, October 31, 1852, and in 1857 the family came to Minnesota and the father pre-empted land in Mower county. Fred was nineteen when he left home to find employment in the train service of the Illinois Central in Iowa, with headquarters at Fort Dodge. After several years in the employ of that company he moved to Sedalia, Missouri, and worked as trainman for the Missouri Pacific. Then Mr. Cook gave his services to the Chicago & Northwestern, moved to Chicago, and continued in the service for an uninterrupted term of many years as a passenger conductor. Resigning from railway service in 1896, Mr. Cook moved to Marshall.

Fred S. Cook was married in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, June 20, 1901, to Catherine A. Farmer, a native of Chicago. Mr. and Mrs. Cook are popular in the social life of Marshall and in Congregational church activities, and Mr. Cook is identified with the progressive activities of the city. He is president of the library board, was president of the Marshall Commercial Club in 1908, and treasurer of the Marshall Development Club in 1908-1910. He is chairman of the county committee of the Y. M. C.

A., is chairman of the trustee board of the Congregational church, and is superintendent of the Sunday School. Fraternal-ly, Mr. Cook is a member of Marshall Com-mandery Knight Templars and of the Mys-tic Shrine of Chicago; also of the A. O. U. W. lodge, and he is a life member of the Order of Railway Conductors of Chicago, Division No. 1.

Our subject is a son of William W. Cook and Martha Brown (Little) Cook, natives of New York and Ohio. They resided in Austin, Mower county, until the time of their deaths. Besides Fred S. of this sketch there are three children: W. W. Cook, of Marshall; Jennie (Mrs. W. W. Noble), of Oakland, California; and Min-nie (Mrs. F. E. Noble), of St. Paul.

JOSEPH M. SENDEN (1883) is one of the prominent farmers and stock raisers of Grandview township. He is a native of Holland and was born October 1, 1866, a son of William Hubert and Hubertina (Vaesen) Senden, both of whom are de-ceased. The parents located in Lyon county in 1883, coming direct to this county from their old homes in Holland.

The father purchased land in Wester-heim township, where the family resided six years. They then moved to the farm now occupied by the subject of this re-view, where they resided two years, after which they purchased the Youmans farm in Lynd township. The father died at the latter place in 1901, and the mother re-sided there until 1909, when she took up her residence with her son, Louis. She died at the home of the latter on Novem-ber 2, 1909. They were the parents of nine children, eight of whom are living: Frank, John, Hubert, Minnick and Louis, all of whom reside in Holland; Joseph M., of this review; Antonette (Mrs. Frank Deutz), of Fairview township; Mary (Mrs. Jacob Jansen), of Lake Marshall town-ship; Constant, deceased. The father of our subject was at the time of his death one of the largest land holders in the county, his holdings consisting of 1240 acres of fine land.

The subject of this review received his early education in Holland, where he at-tended the common schools until thirteen

years of age, after which he worked for his father on the farm until 1883. Then he accompanied his parents to America and to Lyon county and resided with them until 1905, when he moved to his present farm in Grandview township. He is the owner of 440 acres of fine land and has a well-improved farm. In addition to farm-ing our subject engages somewhat in stock raising, among other breeds raising Durham cattle, Duroc-Jersey hogs and Belgian horses. He is the owner of three full-blooded Belgian horses—two mares and a horse. Mr. Senden is a successful farmer and stock raiser and has been a continuous resident of Lyon county since 1883. He is a member of the Catholic church of Ghent.

On November 28, 1905, occurred the marriage of Mr. Senden to Katherine Bot, a native of Holland. She was born Feb-ruary 20, 1873, and accompanied her par-ents to Lyon county in the early eighties. Mr. and Mrs. Senden are the parents of seven children, four of whom are living. The oldest child died in infancy. The others are: Mary (deceased), born June 5, 1907; Hubert (deceased) and William (twins), born June 2, 1908; Mary, born June 10, 1909; Hubert, born June 25, 1910; Debora, born February 18, 1912.

ARCHIBALD J. CHAMBERLAIN (1896), proprietor of a Marshall grocery store, has spent nearly thirty years in the gro-cery business, the last half of that time in Marshall. He was born in Cattaraugus county, New York, July 22, 1856, the son of Horace F. and Hannah (Hulbert) Chamberlain, both of old New England stock and both natives of Cattaraugus county, New York. The family located in Freeborn county, Minnesota, in 1864, where Mrs. Chamberlain died in 1888. The father of our subject, who was born in 1828, resides in Marshall. There are two children in the family besides the sub-ject of this biography: Leona Manning, of Minneapolis; and Alice Jones, of Ge-neva, Minnesota.

When Archibald was seven years of age he accompanied the family to Minnesota, the journey from La Crosse, Wisconsin, to Freeborn county being made overland.

That was before the days of railroads in Southern Minnesota, and Albert Lea was a hamlet of only a few hundred people. The father bought land near Geneva, and on the farm our subject grew to manhood, attending the country schools near by. In 1882 he moved to Geneva, bought a grocery store and conducted the business until 1890. That year he sold out and moved to New Richland, Waseca county, where he engaged in the grocery business three years. The next three years were spent in the same business in Janesville.

In 1896 Mr. Chamberlain located in Marshall and bought the grocery store of Joseph Addison, which was located in the building now occupied by the Palace Grocery. He conducted that business seven years, then sold and bought the Frank Parker store, where he engaged in the business three years. Mr. Chamberlain has been in his present location in the Messenger Block since December, 1909. He carries an excellent line of fancy groceries and crockery. Mr. Chamberlain is affiliated with the Chapter, Commandery and Shrine of the Masonic orders and with the M. W. A. lodge.

At Albert Lea, on April 26, 1879, Mr. Chamberlain was married to Lilly Phelteplace, a native of Richland, Richland county, Wisconsin. They have three children, as follows: Alice (Mrs. George A. Joehning), of Redwood Falls, born at Geneva August 4, 1881; George H., a Marshall business man, born at Geneva July 11, 1884; and Ione, born at Janesville February 25, 1895.

GEORGE ALBERT VAN DUSEN (1883) is a farmer of Monroe township, renting the northwest quarter of section 9. His parents, Charles E. Van Dusen and Fannie E. (Staley) Van Dusen, took a homestead in Monroe township in 1879. George was born on the Monroe homestead farm June 13, 1883.

Our subject was brought up on the farm and received his education in the country schools. He then went to work for his father and lived on the parental farm until two years after his father's death in 1907. He then rented the place where he now lives and started farming for himself.

The marriage of George Albert Van Dusen

and Hannah Rydberg occurred February 4, 1908, at Tracy. Mrs. Van Dusen was born in Sweden August 4, 1890, and came to the United States April 8, 1904. To Mr. and Mrs. Van Dusen have been born two children, Harry Edwin and Clarence Edward. Mr. Van Dusen is a member of the Odd Fellows lodge of Tracy.

HENRY VOSS (1890) has been a resident of Clifton township since he was eighteen years of age. In 1900 he bought the east half of the southeast quarter of section 4 from his father and since that time has been farming for himself. He later purchased the west half of the southeast quarter and in 1911 forty acres on section 9, which makes him the owner of 200 acres of well-improved farming land. Mr. Voss raises considerable stock.

Henry and Amelia (Ladwig) Voss, parents of our subject, were natives of Germany and immigrated to this country when young. Henry was born February 9, 1872, on his father's farm in Rice county, Minnesota. His boyhood was passed there and he completed his education before the family moved to Lyon county in 1890. The father at that time bought the eighty acres on which Henry now makes his home, and the boy lived at home and helped his father with the farm work until buying the place for himself.

The subject of this sketch married Salma Ladwig March 18, 1896. To this union seven children were born, named Walter, Arthur, Lila, Raymond, Florence, Orien and Louise. Mrs. Voss was born in LeSueur county, Minnesota, April 13, 1879, and is a daughter of William and Augusta (Malzhan) Ladwig, natives of Germany. Mr. and Mrs. Voss are members of the Evangelical church of Clifton.

JAMES E. DOYLE (1883) is a retired railroad engineer of the Northwestern railroad. He was born in Stoughton, Wisconsin, August 22, 1862, and when three years of age accompanied his parents to North McGregor, Iowa, where he resided several years. He then moved to Independence, Iowa, where he obtained a common school education.

The parents of our subject are John and Margaret (O'Neill) Doyle, natives of Ireland. They came to the United States when young and were married at LaPorte, Indiana, in 1860. The mother died in 1895 and the father in 1904. They were the parents of one child, the subject of this review.

When sixteen years of age James Doyle entered the employ of the Milwaukee & St. Paul Railroad Company at North McGregor as brakeman and was so engaged for two years. In May, 1883, he went to Huron, South Dakota, where he worked for the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad Company as fireman, and in 1892 he was promoted to engineer, his run being on a passenger from Huron, South Dakota, to Alton, Iowa.

Mr. Doyle took up his residence in Lyon county in 1883, when he located at Tracy, and there he has since made his home. On November 10, 1908, he retired from service and has since led a life of ease. He is the owner of two farms in Lyon county and also owns land near Grand Forks, North Dakota. He is a member of the K. P. lodge.

JAMES J. LAUGHLIN (1891) is auditor of the Hayes-Lucas Lumber Company and the manager of that company's yards at Tracy, having held the position for the past twenty-five years. He has devoted his entire life to the lumber business, as did his father before him.

James J. Laughlin was born at Blooming Grove, Orange county, New York, March 11, 1863. He accompanied his parents to Winona, Minnesota, when five years of age and grew to manhood and was educated in that city. When a young man he entered the employ of the Winona Lumber Company. In 1891 Mr. Laughlin located in Tracy and took charge of the company's yards there. Ten years later the Hayes-Lucas Lumber Company purchased the interests of the Winona Lumber Company and Mr. Laughlin has since been in that company's employ. For fifteen consecutive years Mr. Laughlin was secretary of the Tracy Board of Education.

CHARLES H. TOPEL (1896), born in Germany November 28, 1856, and reared in his native land, came to America at the age of

sixteen. He is now a successful farmer of Rock Lake township, owning the northeast quarter of section 26, upon which he has one of the nicest homes in the precinct. Like many other farmers of the vicinity, he raises stock and pays particular attention to Percheron and Belgian horses, Hereford cattle and Poland China swine.

Our subject's father and mother were Carl and Mary Topel, both deceased. Charles completed his education in Germany at the age of fourteen and then worked for an uncle one year. In the spring of 1872 he came to America and located at Chicago, living there some time and working at various kinds of labor. The great fire had swept the city the year before and Chicago was the Mecca for the man seeking employment, as the new city was springing up as fast as human power could rush the work.

Leaving Chicago, Mr. Topel spent a short time at Des Plaines, Illinois, and later did farm labor for a few years in Kankakee county, going from there to Benton county, Indiana, where he worked five years at farming. Returning to Kankakee, he worked in a linseed oil mill two years. In the spring of 1883 our subject located on a homestead and tree claim in Hand county, South Dakota, and farmed there until 1896, when he moved to Lyon county and made his home on his present farm. While in Hand county Mr. Topel was township treasurer for several years, and he became a member of the A. O. U. W. lodge at Wessington Springs.

At Manteno, Illinois, Charles Topel was joined in marriage to Maggie Moat, January 24, 1883. Mrs. Topel is a native of Kankakee county. The following children have been born to this union: William, of Waseca; Lillian (Mrs. Roy Root), of Balaton; Myrtle (Mrs. Earl Zollar), of Waterloo, Iowa; Kathryn (Mrs. Adolph Ronbeck), of Minneapolis; Eliza and Beatrice, of St. Paul; and Margaret, Charles and Ruth, residing at home.

ANDREW E. HAEIRET (1885) is the proprietor of a livery barn in Minneota. He is a native of Minneota and was born May 25, 1885. His parents were Andrew C. and Indiana (Paulson) Haeiret, natives of Christianitya, Norway. In the fall of 1860 they were married and nine years later came to America, settling in Galesville, Wisconsin, where

they lived ten years. In the spring of 1879 they came with their family to Minneota, where they lived until their deaths. The father died October 1, 1909, and the mother died November 25, 1893. They were the parents of twelve children, seven of whom are living, as follows: Albert, Pete, Andrew E., Edith, Sarah and Mary. Those who have died were Emma, Christena, Annie, John and Albert.

Andrew E. Heairet attended the Minneota schools and later took a business course. In April, 1905, he purchased the M. J. Kiley dray line and continued in the business until the fall of 1908. On the latter date he sold the dray line and the next spring purchased the A. E. Tibbits livery stable. He has since been engaged in that business. He has both teams and autos.

AIME VANHEE (1880) is a dealer in general merchandise of Ghent and a former postmaster of that village. He has taken a most important part in the affairs of his village and with his father formed the advance guard of the colony of Belgian Catholics who located in Lyon county in the early eighties.

Aime Vanhee was born in Belgium May 12, 1862, the son of Angelus and P. (Vanstechelmon) Vanhee. The father was born March 23, 1839, was married July 29, 1862, came to America in 1880, and died in 1895. The mother died November 6, 1909, at the age of seventy years. There are nine children in the family, named as follows: Aime, Bruno, Mary, Modest, Achille, Charlie, Peter, Emily and Helen.

In 1880 Angelus Vanhee and his son Aime left their native land and came to Lyon county to view conditions in this country and report to their neighbors in Belgium. They were pleased with the looks of the country about the little village of Ghent and before their return purchased the east half of section 17, Grandview. They returned to Belgium and through their influence came the colony that settled largely the townships of Grandview and Westerheim and part of Valders.

The Vanhees returned to Lyon county and were the first Belgian settlers in Grandview township. They located on the farm they had bought and later purchased other lands

and became known as the fathers of the Catholic colony. From 1881 to 1883 there were many additions to the settlement from the old country.

Aime remained on his father's farm until 1894, assisting with the work. That year he moved to Ghent and rented the Gits building, in which he is still doing business. At the same time he bought the Gits hardware stock, but soon after disposed of that and has since dealt in general merchandise. The building was later bought by Mr. Vanhee's mother, in whose name it is still held. Mr. Vanhee sells dry goods, groceries, shoes, notions and furnishing goods and buys cream for the Tracy creamery.

When he located in Ghent in 1894 Mr. Vanhee was appointed postmaster and held the office eight years, turning it over at the end of that time to Mrs. Matilda Blodgett, the present incumbent. He has stock in the Farmers Elevator Company of Ghent, in the Ghent Rural Telephone Company, and in the county fair association. For several terms he was village treasurer. Our subject is a member of the Catholic church and of the Catholic Order of Foresters and Modern Woodmen of America lodges.

The marriage of Mr. Vanhee to Dora A. Van Emelan was solemnized at Ghent July 16, 1895. She was born in Kinmundy, Marion county, Illinois, August 25, 1875, and is the daughter of Louis and Magdelina (Rapp) Van Emelan, natives, respectively, of Illinois and Germany. Mr. and Mrs. Vanhee are the parents of seven children, named as follows: Angelus, Mary, Joseph, Lucy, Agnes, Angeline and Helen. One daughter, Katherine, died August 29, 1903, at the age of three and one-half years.

MRS. HELENE FURGESON (1881) is the widow of Ole K. Furgeson, who was a homesteader and one of the prominent farmers of Island Lake township. She still makes her home on the homestead and she and her sons Gisle and Orvin conduct the farm.

Mrs. Furgeson's maiden name was Helene Gresdalen. She was born in Muskego, Wisconsin, March 25, 1855. Her parents, Lars O. and Ragnild (Gisseleson) Gresdalen, came from Norway in 1850 and 1851, respectively, and were married in Wisconsin. When the subject of this review was two



AIME VANHEE AND WIFE

Mr. Vanhee is a Merchant of Ghent and an  
Early Settler.



THE LATE OLE K. FURGESON

A Homesteader and Former Prominent Res-  
ident of Island Lake Township.



years old the family moved to Freeborn county, Minnesota, and there her parents lived until their deaths, the father in 1897 and the mother in 1909.

Miss Gresdalen spent her girlhood days in Freeborn county and she was married there on June 28, 1881, to Ole K. Furgeson. Mr. Furgeson was born in Winnebago county, Wisconsin, September 15, 1851. His parents, natives of Norway, were Kittel and Margrette (Peterson) Furgeson. Immediately after their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Ole K. Furgeson came to Lyon county and took as a homestead claim the farm on which Mrs. Furgeson still lives. Mr. Furgeson farmed that place until his death on June 19, 1908. He was an influential man and one highly esteemed by his neighbors in Island Lake township.

The children of the family are Rudolph, Oscar, Palma, Rachel, William, Martin, Gisle, Anne and Orvin.

GEORGE W. MADDEN (1904). Among the substantial and influential farmers of Lynd township is George W. Madden, who has been a resident of Lyon county for the past eight years. George is a native of Iowa and was born in Bremer county December 6, 1867, a son of George W. and Sarah (Martin) Madden, natives of Virginia and pioneer settlers of Bremer county. Mrs. Madden was born October 24, 1831, and died September 8, 1911, at her home in Sumner, Iowa. Mr. Madden died June 5, 1889. They were the parents of eleven children.

The man whose name heads this sketch received his education in the district schools of Bremer county, where he attended school until twenty-one years of age. He then worked at farm labor and bridge work five or six years, after which he engaged in the livery business at Fayette, Iowa, continuing in that work three years, when he sold and worked for a hardware dealer two years. He again returned to farm work, this time for himself. He farmed three years in Fayette county and one year on the old home farm in Bremer county. In 1899 he purchased one hundred sixty acres on section 36, Lynd township, which he rented out until 1904, when he moved to the place and has since resided there. He has since that time put up almost all new buildings.

Mr. Madden is a member of the Yeomen lodge. He is one of the directors of school district No. 1 and was road overseer one year in Lynd township. He raises considerable stock, including Poland China hogs, Shorthorn cattle and Barred Plymouth Rock chickens, and is a stockholder and a director of the Farmers Elevator Company of Lynd.

Mr. Madden was married June 5, 1895, to Emma Bloxham, a daughter of Sam Bloxham, of Winneshiek county, Iowa. Mrs. Madden was born in 1869 and died May 9, 1904. To this union were born the following three children: Glenn, born June 28, 1896; Georgie, born April 22, 1901; Charles, born March 30, 1904. Mr. Madden was married a second time, to Alice Bloxham, on October 3, 1906. She died in October, 1907. He was married a third time, to Louise Tiedje, a daughter of Henry and Gusta Tiedje, natives of Germany and early settlers of Carroll county, Iowa. Her father died in February, 1910; her mother resides near Lynd. Mrs. Madden is a native of Iowa and was born in Carroll county January 24, 1886. To this union have been born the following children: Abraham, born February 12, 1909; Clarence, born October 22, 1910.

Mr. Madden has seven brothers and six sisters, all living: Ed., Charles, Marcellus, of Lyon county; John, of Spokane, Washington; Price, of Anthony, Kansas; James, of Sumner, Iowa; Joe, of Halfa, Iowa; Mrs. Will Triptow, of Burt, Iowa; Jennie, of Sumner, Iowa; Maggie, of Sumner, Iowa; Mrs. A. H. Bixby, of Spirit Lake, Iowa; Mrs. Julius Robinson, of Oelwein, Iowa; Mrs. Joe Stufflebeam, of Denver, Colorado.

TELESPHORE PARADIS (1886) engages in farming and stock raising upon his farm on section 27, Lake Marshall township, where he has resided several years. He is a native of Canada and was born January 22, 1851. His parents are Lawrence and Florence (Lenone) Paradis, natives of Canada.

Telesphore attended school and assisted his father on the farm during his minority. In 1886 he came to Lyon county and purchased land in Fairview township, where he lived several years, later selling there and buying his present farm in Lake Marshall. He owns a fine 240-acre farm

in that township, where, in addition to general farming, he engages in the raising of cattle and hogs. Mr. Paradis is a member of the Catholic church.

Mr. Paradis was married in Canada on September 10, 1878, to Celina Desmareis, who was born in that country in 1858, and died in August, 1892. To Mr. and Mrs. Paradis were born the following named children: Helen, Vergina, Vadeline, Bernedette, Teles, Phillip, Adel, Laura, Wilfred. Mr. Paradis was married a second time at Ghent, in 1896, to Lea Surprenant, a native of Canada. She was born December 17, 1861, and came to Minnesota in 1896. To this union have been born two children: Diana, born March 8, 1897, and Leo, born July 21, 1900.

HORATIO R. PAINTER (1897), superintendent of schools for Lyon county, has devoted his entire life to educational pursuits, for the past fifteen years as a resident of Lyon county. He was born at Washington C. H., Fayette county, Ohio, June 23, 1875, the son of Jonathan and Mary (Pruddy) Painter. The parents were natives of Pennsylvania but settled in Ohio when children. The father died a number of years ago; the mother now lives at Connersville, Indiana. In the family are seven children, as follows: Harvey, Earl H. and Minnie (Mrs. John R. Gray), all of Connersville, Indiana; Lora (Mrs. Sherman Bilby), of Munsie, Illinois; Alice (Mrs. U. T. Ellis), of Wilmington, Ohio; and H. R., of this biography.

When our subject was eleven years of age he accompanied the family from his native state to Connersville, Indiana, and there grew to manhood, having graduated from the Connersville High School. He located in Lyon county in 1897 and for one year was employed as a teacher in Island Lake township. He taught at Hanley Falls one year and at Russell four years, during part of which time he attended Drake University, at Des Moines, Iowa. Mr. Painter engaged in teaching at Garvin two years and in the fall of 1906 was elected county superintendent of schools, an office he has since held. Mr. Painter is a member of the Masonic and Eastern Star lodges.

At Russell, in May, 1902, Mr. Painter was united in marriage to Inez C. Coyle, a native of Sodus township. Her father was Joshua Coyle, who settled in the county in the seventies and died in 1903. To Mr. and Mrs. Painter one child has been born, Louise, who was born February 21, 1909.

HENRY BURCKHARDT (1902). One of the enterprising farmers of Coon Creek township is Henry Burckhardt, the owner of the southwest quarter of section 10. Henry is a native of Illinois and was born in Freeport on October 26, 1880, a son of J. J. and Bertha (Watzke) Burckhardt, of that city.

Henry received his schooling in the district schools near Freeport, which he attended until sixteen years of age, after which he assisted his father on the farm until twenty-one years old. Leaving home at that time, he spent some time in Iowa and South Dakota, finally locating in Coon Creek township in 1902. He has farmed there since that date on the quarter section which he owns. He also farms 320 acres of rented land. Besides farming he raises considerable stock, among other breeds, Poland China hogs and Durham cattle.

Mr. Burckhardt is a member of the German Lutheran church and of the Masonic and Modern Woodmen lodges. He holds stock in the following enterprises of Russell: Farmers Elevator Company, Farmers Mutual Telephone Company and Farmers Co-operative Store Company. In an official capacity Mr. Burckhardt has several times been called upon to serve. He holds the office of clerk of school district No. 70 and was director of the Farmers Mutual Telephone Company for two years. Mr. Burckhardt is a successful farmer and stock raiser.

Mr. Burckhardt is a man of family. On February 24, 1904, he was married to Florence V. Thurston, a native of Lyons township and a daughter of Henry and Viola (Wait) Thurston. She was born October 26, 1882. Mr. and Mrs. Burckhardt are the parents of two children: Helen Bertha, born December 1, 1905; and Leon Henry, born October 31, 1907.

Mr. and Mrs. Thurston, the parents of Mrs. Burckhardt, are pioneer residents in Lyon county, having come here when Lynd was the county seat and located in Lyons township. They hauled lumber for their home from New Ulm. Mrs. Thurston's father, Ransom Wait, was a Presbyterian minister who organized several churches in Murray and Lyon counties. Mr. and Mrs. Thurston now reside at Moore, Fergus county, Montana. Mr. Thurston is a veteran of the Civil War, having served three years as a member of Company E, Fourth Minnesota Regiment. His eldest son, C. W. Thurston, is a veteran of the Spanish-American War.

Mr. Burckhardt has two sisters and two brothers: Katie Sophia, Augusta and Albert Cleveland Burckhardt, of Freeport, Illinois, and Frank J., of Coon Creek township. Mrs. Burckhardt has five brothers and one sister, as follows: Stanley and Eugene Thurston, of Moore, Montana; Leon and Floyd Thurston, of Stanford, Montana; C. W. Thurston, of Oregon; and Ada Thurston, of Moore, Montana.

FRANK L. HOLLEY (1898) is one of the most prosperous farmers and stock raisers of Lake Marshall township. He was born in Kankakee county, Illinois, November 3, 1867, and is a son of Steven and Mariette (Fairchild) Holley, natives of New York. The parents moved to Illinois in an early day and settled in Kankakee county.

Frank received his early education and grew to manhood near his parents' home in Illinois. When twenty-one years of age he rented land and started farming for himself. In 1898 he came to Lyon county and purchased 240 acres of land in Island Lake township, which he farmed four years and then returned to Illinois, where he farmed two years. He again took up his residence in Lyon county and purchased 280 acres on section 2, Lake Marshall township, where he has since resided. In addition to grain farming, Mr. Holley raises considerable stock, including Shorthorn cattle, Duroc-Jersey hogs and Shropshire sheep. He feeds and ships his own stock. He is a shareholder and director of the Farmers Elevator Company of Marshall. He is also a director of the Lyon County Fair Associa-

tion, a member of the Township Board of Supervisors, and a member of the Masonic lodge.

Mr. Holley was married in Illinois December 25, 1891, to Minnie A. Corliss, a native of that state. She was born August 29, 1872, and is a daughter of John I. and C. Jennie (Switzer) Corliss. The father is a native of Ohio and the mother of Illinois. Mr. and Mrs. Holley are the parents of the following children: Merlin C., born December 4, 1899; Arlo J., born December 29, 1904.

Mr. Holley, with three neighbors, built the first farmers' telephone line in Lyon county. It is known as the Big Four telephone line.

H. RAYMOND SEITER (1883) is a native of Lyon county and was born at Tracy July 10, 1883, a son of H. F. and Emma C. (Swanson) Seiter, the former a native of New Ulm and the latter of Sweden. They came to Tracy in 1882, where the father still resides, a retired business man and president of the Citizens Bank. Mrs. Seiter died in 1902. They were the parents of three children: Winona (Mrs. I. W. Bedle), of Spokane, Washington; H. Raymond and Dudley H. Our subject has made his home in Tracy nearly all his life.

The subject of this review received his education in the Tracy High School and was a member of the original Tracy High School orchestra. While yet a young man he entered the Citizens State Bank and remained about four years. He then removed to Kansas City, where he remained four years—one year in the National Bank of Commerce and three years representing the Lake Erie Seed & Silo Company. He returned to Tracy in July, 1911, and still represents the last named firm, with headquarters at Tracy.

Mr. Seiter was married in Kansas City on May 2, 1907, to Louise Maderia, a native of that place. They are the parents of one child, Herman Ridgley.

TOLLEF T. MOULAND (1890), the owner of 240 acres of well-improved land in Vallers township, was born in Stavanger, Norway, February 27, 1864, and is a son of Tonnes and Berthae (Holen) Mouland. Both the parents of our subject are dead.

Tollef grew up on the farm in his native land and received the customary education of the farmer lad. He was twenty-two years of age when, in 1886, he came to America and located in Yellow Medicine county, Minnesota. There he worked at farm labor for a time, and later worked one year in the pineries of Northern Wisconsin. His advent to Lyon county occurred in 1890, in which year he took up his residence on 160 acres of the north half of section 27, Vallers township, having purchased the land two years before. The next year Tollef bought an additional eighty acres, and he has since been farming successfully the whole piece. He raises considerable stock. Mr. Moulund is active in the township's affairs, has been assessor four years, a member of the town board one year, and has been a member of the school board of district No. 71 eleven years.

Our subject's marriage to Bertha M. Lende occurred in the county December 27, 1890. She was born in Norway May 3, 1870, and is a daughter of Oli and Grette M. (Kverneland) Lende. Her parents came to America in 1879 and settled in Yellow Medicine county, later moving to Lyon county and taking a homestead on section 22, Vallers township. After a few years they sold that farm and moved to Lucas township, where Mr. Lende died in 1909 and where Mrs. Lende still lives at the age of seventy-five years. Mr. and Mrs. Moulund have the following children: Bertha E., born October 6, 1891; Oscar, born August 4, 1893; Tonnes R., born July 27, 1895; Conrad M., born October 2, 1897; Thomas B., born October 20, 1900; and Grette M., born July 23, 1903. The family belong to the Norwegian Lutheran church.

HERMAN C. STANKEY (1874), who carries on a business in Marshall under the title Marshall Auto Company, has resided in Lyon county all except the first twelve years of his life. He is a native of Germany and was born February 24, 1862. At the age of five years he came with his parents to America, the family settling at Chatfield, Minnesota. His mother died when he was seven years old, and at the age of ten years he started out in life for himself, leaving home in the fall of 1872 to go to Gary, Minnesota,

to make his home with the family of Alfred Edwards.

In 1874 young Stankey accompanied the Edwards family to Lyon county, a homestead and tree claim being taken in Fairview township. Mr. Stankey remained on the home farm until twenty-one years of age; then he engaged in farming for himself in the same precinct. He prospered and purchased land until he was the owner of 400 acres of Lyon county's productive soil, the home place being the northeast quarter of section 4, Fairview. He engaged in farming until 1900, when he moved to Marshall.

For a few years Mr. Stankey worked at the machinery business and then engaged in the auto livery business, opening the first auto repair shop in the city. In the fall of 1910 Mr. Stankey erected a fire-proof cement block garage, 44x80 feet, and the following January opened the place with a large stock of cars. The capacity of the garage is thirty cars. He conducts a repair shop in connection and deals in automobile accessories.

Mr. Stankey was married in Lyon county December 23, 1885, to Emma Marshall, a native of Canada. They have one child, Bertha (Mrs. Bert Robbons). During his residence in Fairview township Mr. Stankey served three years as a supervisor and for several years was a member of the school board.

EDWARD MARCOTTE (1900), of Sodus township, is a native of Kankakee county, Illinois, where he was born April 1, 1852. He received his education in the county where he was born, living with his parents until his marriage in 1875. In the latter year he rented his father's farm, which he operated one year, after which he moved to an eighty-acre farm which he received from his father. He operated the latter farm three years and then he sold out and moved to Cloud county, Kansas, where he purchased a homestead right, on which he proved up. He resided in Cloud county twenty years.

In 1900 Mr. Marcotte moved to Lyon county and rented land in Lake Marshall township nine years. In 1909 he bought the west half of section 5, Sodus township, and has resided thereon since. Mr. Marcotte is a member of the Catholic church. His parents are Antoine and Louise (Belouin) Marcotte.

natives of Canada, who were among the first settlers in Kankakee county, Illinois.

At Manteno, Illinois, April 5, 1875, occurred the marriage of our subject to Josephine Brosseau, a native of Kankakee county. She is the daughter of Peter and Julia (Pilotte) Brosseau, natives of Canada. Mrs. Marcotte was born April 25, 1858. Mr. and Mrs. Marcotte are the parents of the following children: George L., born December 5, 1876; Nellie C., born August 9, 1880; Antonie F., born September 26, 1882; Hector A., born August 24, 1884; Victoria J., born November 12, 1886, died October 7, 1903; Fred J., born August 27, 1888; Leon C., born January 12, 1892; Meria A., born March 28, 1897; Juliett, born March 19, 1899.

NICKOLAI ORSEN (1882) is a native of Lyon county and was born on his father's homestead in Westerheim township August 25, 1882. He has always lived on the place, with the exception of ten months spent in Stanley county, South Dakota, in 1907-08. At that time he filed on a homestead and acquired land which he still owns.

Ole L. and Theoline (Nelson) Orsen, parents of our subject, came to the United States from Norway. Ole L. Orsen emigrated in the early seventies and settled first in Iowa, where he lived several years, and then he came to Lyon county and took a homestead on the northeast quarter of section 18, Westerheim township. He married Theoline Nelson and they have the following children living: Louis, Amelia (Mrs. C. G. Lee), Nickolai, Alfred, Olai, Theoline, Magnhild, Mamie and Nora. A daughter, Mattie, died a few years ago and another child died in infancy. Mr. and Mrs. Orsen retired to Minneota to live in 1904.

Nickolai was educated in the district schools of his township and in the Agricultural College at St. Paul, and later helped his father on the home farm, having conducted the old homestead since his parents moved to Minneota. He also owns the southwest quarter of section 18, which he bought in 1911, and farms 400 acres in all.

Our subject was married in the township December 13, 1905, taking for his wife Beatrice Olevson, a native of Watertown, South Dakota. To this union four children were born, Ivan, Irven, Tillie and Orval. Mr.

Orsen is a member of the Norwegian Lutheran church.

Louis Orsen, brother of the above, was born on his father's homestead in Westerheim township and grew to manhood on the farm. He left home at the age of nineteen years and started out for himself, working at farm labor. In 1910 he took a homestead in Perkins county, North Dakota, and proved up on the place the next year. He then rented the farm he now conducts on section 18, Westerheim township, from his grandmother, Mrs. Magnild Orsen. He farms in addition eighty acres on section 19.

The marriage of Louis Orsen and Irene Melhus, a native of Norway, took place in Minneota March 26, 1911. They have one son, Ole.

JACOB A. RICKERT (1907), of Tracy, was born in Byron, Olmsted county, Minnesota, December 31, 1881, a son of Jacob A. and Annie E. Rickert. He received a common and high school education at Wahpeton, North Dakota, where his parents reside.

Mr. Rickert completed a course in the Law Department of the University of Minnesota in 1902 and practised law at Spokane, Washington, two years. He had banking experience with the First National Bank of Wahpeton, North Dakota, and the First National Bank of Lidgerwood, North Dakota. He moved to Tracy January 1, 1907, to take the position of assistant cashier of the Citizens State Bank, and was elected cashier one year later, a position he still holds.

At Spokane, Washington, in 1908, Mr. Rickert was married to Eva C. Lowry. Mr. Rickert is a member of the Board of Education and treasurer of the school district. He is treasurer of the Tracy Savings and Loan Association.

HARRY A. TATE (1890) is manager of the Tate elevator of Balaton. He was born in St. Charles, Minnesota, June 19, 1885, and is a son of George A. and Lillian M. (Dickinson) Tate, natives of Minnesota and residents of Balaton. The father is president of the First National Bank of Balaton and is a large land holder and grain dealer. They are the parents of two children, Harry A. of this sketch and Georgia.

Harry Tate accompanied his parents when four years of age to Oshawa, Minnesota, where they resided a year, moving to Balaton in 1890, where they have since lived. Harry attended the schools of Balaton and later the Marshall High School, from which he was graduated. He then attended Carleton College at Northfield, Minnesota, two years. In 1906 he took charge of his father's elevator at Balaton and has had charge since. He holds membership in the Masonic and Modern Woodmen lodges.

Our subject was married in Balaton July 13, 1910, to Iva H. Hall, who was born near Wessington Springs, South Dakota. Mr. and Mrs. Tate are the parents of one child, Eva Louise, born May 27, 1911.

The Tate elevator of which our subject has charge is the outgrowth of the Winona Grain Company's elevator, which was built twenty-seven years ago. It was purchased in 1900 by George A. Tate, who rebuilt the house, making it the largest in the county, with a capacity of 40,000 bushels. He conducted it several years after buying and then installed his brother-in-law, W. E. Dickinson, as manager. The latter had charge until 1906, when our subject took charge and has managed it since. He handles grain, coal, feed and flour.

GEORGE H. BAMFORD (1882), of Lake Marshall township, was born in Waukesha, Wisconsin, April 23, 1877. His parents are William E. and Catherine (Cairns) Bamford, the former a native of Rhode Island and the latter of Kentucky.

When five years of age George accompanied his parents to Lyon county and his father purchased land in Sodus township. He has resided in the county since that date. Our subject worked at home until 1896, at which time his father died and he took charge of the home farm. In 1906 he became the owner of the southeast quarter of section 30, Lake Marshall township, where he now resides. He has a fine farm. Mr. Bamford is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church. He is clerk of school district No. 7.

The subject of this review, was married at Marshall November 14, 1906, to Caroline F. Buchert, who was born in Appleton, Wisconsin. Mrs. Bamford was born De-

cember 12, 1882, and is a daughter of Henry and Emily (Lippoldt) Buchert, the former a native of Wisconsin and the latter of Germany.

GEORGE A. HANSEN (1902) is the proprietor of a meat market and grocery store at Tracy, where he has resided the past ten years. He is a native of Denmark and was born April 23, 1872. When eighteen years of age he came to America and for a number of years made Sioux City, Iowa, his home. There he learned the butcher business and there he afterward engaged in the business for himself. He conducted a shop at Plankinton, South Dakota, four or five years and then engaged in the mill and elevator business at Dakota City, Nebraska.

From the last named place Mr. Hansen moved to Tracy in 1902. He purchased the John W. Beedle meat market on Front Street and conducted it five years. Then he engaged in the livery business in partnership with Al. Swoffer for a short time and afterwards was in the ice business two years. During that time he also had an interest in a meat market in partnership with C. M. Duus. In 1909 Mr. Hansen bought the general store of Vilwoc & Reetz, in the John Owens Building. He disposed of the merchandise stock and now handles only meats and groceries.

Mr. Hansen owns his home in the city, village property in Tyler, and a Lyon county farm. He is a member of the City Council and holds membership in the Odd Fellows, Workmen and Woodmen lodges.

Our subject is one of a family of ten children, of whom the five named reside in America: George A., of this biography; Olaf W., of Los Angeles, California; Peter C. and Carrie Boe, of Sioux City; and Ferdinand, of Aberdeen, South Dakota. The parents, Hans Andersen and Bodol M. (Hansen) Andersen, are deceased.

Mr. Hansen was married at Plankinton, South Dakota, April 22, 1896, to Anna K. Clark, who was also born in Denmark and came to America when a child. To Mr. and Mrs. Hansen have been born seven children: Flora, George, Bernice, Leo, deceased; Edith, Gladys and Clark A.

STEPHEN NICHOLSON (1901) is a hardware, stock and lumber dealer of the village of Lynd. He also deals in full-blood Duroc-Jersey hogs. Mr. Nicholson is a native of New York and was born in Livingston county, near Rochester, on May 11, 1854, a son of William and Hanna Nicholson, natives of England. The parents were at various times residents of New York, Illinois and Bremer county, Iowa. From the latter place they moved to Pasadena, California, where both died. They were the parents of four children: Mrs. C. E. Banks and Miss Jennie Nicholson, of Algona, Iowa; Stephen and Fred Nicholson, of Lynd.

When two years of age the subject of this review accompanied his parents to Belvidere, Illinois. They resided there until 1867 and then moved to Bremer county, Iowa. It was there that Stephen received his early education and grew to manhood. He engaged in the grocery and crockery business in that county three years and then moved to Burt, Kossuth county, Iowa, where he engaged in a similar business until 1900.

In 1901 Mr. Nicholson located in Lynd and built his present hardware store and lumber yards and put a complete stock in each. A year later his brother, Fred D. Nicholson, joined him in the business and the firm name was changed to Nicholson Brothers. Besides carrying on their lumber and hardware business, they buy and ship stock. They are the largest breeders of Duroc-Jersey hogs in the state, their sales extending throughout Minnesota and Iowa. They hold public sales of thoroughbred sows every February. Our subject is a member of the A. O. U. W. lodge and has been president of the school board of district No. 1 for a number of years.

The subject of this review was married at Waverly, Iowa, April 16, 1884, to Mabel N. Kelley. They are the parents of four children as follows: Frank, a graduate of the Mechanic Arts School of Saint Paul, now a student of Cornell University; Richard, Paul and Helen, who reside at home.

Fred D. Nicholson is a native of Illinois and was born at Belvidere. He is a member of the firm of Nicholson Brothers and moved to Lynd in 1902, where he associated himself with his brother Stephen.

Fred Nicholson is also a man of family. He was married at Waverly, Iowa, to Agnes Kelley. They have four children: Mrs. A. C. Boomer, of Owatonna, Minnesota; Roy, Maurice and Robert, of Lynd. Mr. Nicholson is a member of the A. O. U. W. lodge.

JOHN W. MOORE (1899) is the owner of eighty acres on the northeast quarter of section 4, Lyons township, where he has resided the past thirteen years. He is a native of New York and was born in Belfast, Allegany county, September 13, 1855, a son of German R. and Almina (Orcutt) Moore, natives of Vermont. They came to Minnesota in the seventies and located in Martin county, where the father of our subject homesteaded land.

John Moore received his schooling in Martin county and there grew to manhood, experiencing many of the inconveniences of frontier life, notably the grasshopper scourge and blizzards. He assisted with the work on the home farm several years and homesteaded land adjoining his father's homestead. He also purchased 120 acres of state land, which he farmed until 1899. Then he sold and came to Lyon county, buying the land in Lyons township upon which he still resides.

Besides farming, Mr. Moore raises considerable stock, among other breeds the Duroc-Jersey and Poland China hogs. He is a member of the Masonic lodge and was clerk of school district No. 14 five or six years. He was a member of the Township Board of Supervisors in Martin county and served several terms.

Mr. Moore was married at Houston, Minnesota, in August, 1884, to Mary McCann, a native of Wisconsin and a daughter of Peter and Margrette McCann, natives of Ireland. Mrs. Moore was born in Plymouth, Wisconsin, April 29, 1862. To Mr. and Mrs. Moore have been born the following children: Bettie L., born April 3, 1886; May M., born June 7, 1888; Nina E., born April 26, 1890; Dora M., born December 11, 1891; Harry J. and Hatty M., born October 12, 1897; Leslie R., born September 27, 1899; John W., born August 10, 1901; Marilla J., born October 25, 1903; Pearl, born November 5, 1905.

JOHN F. FINNEGAN (1880) is a member of the firm of Finnegan & Huyck, who conduct a butcher shop and buy live stock in Minneota. He was born in Durham, England, November 17, 1875, and when five years of age accompanied his parents to the United States. The family located in Nordland township, Lyon county, where the father purchased land from the railroad company. His father having died when John was twenty-two years of age, our subject then operated the home farm five years.

In 1901 the subject of this review moved to Minneota and worked two years for George Geiwitz, after which he engaged in the butcher business, and he has since conducted a shop. In July, 1910, he sold a half interest in the business to Smith Huyck, the firm name now being Finnegan & Huyck. They also deal in live stock. Mr. Finnegan continues to operate the old home farm, which is owned by himself and his sister, Mrs. A. J. Kelly, of Gilroy, California. Mr. Finnegan holds membership in the K. C. and M. W. A. lodges and was banker of the latter order nine years. He was a member of the Village Council two terms. He has three sisters: Mrs. W. P. Fessler, Mrs. A. J. Kelly and Mrs. Martin Murry, of Redwood county, Minnesota.

Mr. Finnegan was married at Minneota April 17, 1900, to Mary Tillemans, a native of Holland. Her father, John Tillemans, located in Nordland township in 1883. Mr. and Mrs. Finnegan are the parents of six children: Marie, Bernice, Dolores, John, Felicia and Katherine.

ALBIN W NELSON (1890), a Rock Lake township farmer, is a native of Lyon county, having been born at Burchard June 8, 1890. His father, Andrew W. Nelson, also lives in Rock Lake township; his mother, Annie (Munson) Nelson, is deceased. The family made settlement in the county in the late eighties.

Albin attended the district school until sixteen years of age and thereafter worked on his father's farm. He was married in 1912 and is now engaged in farming for himself. He owns the southwest quarter of section 9. Mr. Nelson is a member of the Swedish Lutheran church of Balaton.

In Rock Lake township, on February 21,

1912, Mr. Nelson was married to Ellen Otilda Nelson. She was born in Ida Grove, Iowa, April 21, 1894, and is a daughter of Gust and Tilda (Larson) Nelson, of Rock Lake township. Her parents were born in Sweden, came to America early in life, and have lived in Lyon county since 1907.

HARRY W. ADDISON (1876) is associated with his father in the hardware business at Marshall. They are the largest dealers in the city, carrying a full line of hardware and dealing in implements, farm machinery, automobiles, gas engines and carriages. Much of the firm's success has been due to the energy which Harry has displayed.

Our subject was born January 21, 1869, at Waseca, Minnesota, and when seven years of age the family moved to Marshall, where he has since made his home. He received his education in the public schools and was a member of the Marshall High School's first graduating class, in 1888. When a lad he commenced to work in his father's hardware store and has always been associated with him, being admitted to partnership in 1892, since which time the firm has been R. M. Addison & Son.

Harry Wood Addison is a son of R. M. Addison and Ella (Wood) Addison. His mother died January 18, 1908. The father is one of the city's pioneer business men, having located here in the seventies. R. M. Addison has another son, Robert M., Jr., who is a resident of Marshall and associated with the firm, and a daughter, Edith D. (Mrs. S. McKennan), of Helena, Montana.

At Marshall, in February, 1899, occurred the wedding of Harry W. Addison and Anna L. Weikle. Mrs. Addison is a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. F. K. Weikle, of Marshall, and her birthplace is Allentown, Pennsylvania. Mr. and Mrs. Harry Addison are the parents of two children, Ella Barbara and Harry Wood.

THOMAS I. CASTLE (1885) conducts a farm in Clifton township and is the owner of the south half of section 26. He raises Shorthorn cattle and Poland China hogs and has one of the best improved farms in the township.

William and Maria (Wilkinson) Castle,

parents of our subject, were born in Yorkshire, England, and came to America in 1865, settling in Illinois and pursuing the occupation of farmers. Thomas I. was born in Will county, Illinois, August 20, 1875. He lived with his parents on the Illinois farm until he was ten years of age, at which time the family moved to Lyon county.

Thomas Castle received his early schooling in Illinois and later attended country school in Lyon county. His father upon coming to Lyon county had purchased the homestead right to the southwest quarter of section 26 and a tree claim to the southeast quarter of the same section, Clifton township. Thomas grew up on the farm and when twenty-two years of age he rented the southwest quarter of section 26 and later bought both quarters from his father, and he now conducts the half section.

July 4, 1903, occurred the wedding of Thomas I. Castle and Leora Dickerman. To this union have been born three children: Florence I., born April 5, 1904; Morris, born August 27, 1905; and Mildred, born January 30, 1907. Mrs. Castle was born January 6, 1877, in Olmsted county, Minnesota, and is a daughter of Eugene and Maribah (Templeton) Dickerman, natives of Vermont.

The Castles are members of the Presbyterian church and Mr. Castle is clerk of school district No. 50.

LEWIS A. WEWETZER (1889) is one of the comparatively young farmers of Island Lake township and owns the northeast quarter of section 13, where he has farmed since 1898.

Mr. Wewetzer was born in Lake county, Illinois, May 8, 1871, and is a son of Gustav and Malvina (Boettcher) Wewetzer, natives of Germany. The parents came to this country in 1869 and 1870, settled in Illinois, where Lewis was born, and in 1889 the family moved to Lyon county. The father had purchased the northeast quarter of section 1, Island Lake township, the previous year, and upon their arrival in the county the Wewetzers took up their residence on that land.

The subject of this sketch had received his education in Illinois, and after the family's arrival in Lyon county the boy helped his father with the farm work until 1896,

when his mother died. Then Lewis, in company with his brothers, G. C. and F. C. Wewetzer, took charge of the home farm and managed it until 1898, when Lewis moved to the farm on which he now lives and which he had bought the year before. On that place he has since made his home and has done very well and prospered from his farming and from his stock raising. Mr. Wewetzer every year ships blooded Duroc-Jersey hogs to market.

Lewis Wewetzer and Rosie Clark were married at Marshall July 27, 1898. His wife was born in Lake Marshall township October 16, 1873, and is a daughter of Josiah and Charlotte (Currier) Clark, natives of Maine and now deceased. The Wewetzers have three children: Lewis J., born January 30, 1901; Millicent A., born March 20, 1903; and Harold C., born April 18, 1905.

Mr. Wewetzer is treasurer of school district No. 62 and has served fourteen years in that capacity. He has served as chairman of the township board six years, was assessor two years, and one year was clerk of the board. His fraternal associations are with the Modern Brotherhood of America.

A. BLANCHARD (1893) is secretary of the Marshall Milling Company and the superintendent of that company's mill at Marshall. He has been a resident of Marshall nineteen years.

Mr. Blanchard was born in Green Lake county, Wisconsin, April 17, 1856. His parents were N. H. Blanchard and Mary Jane (Ellsworth) Blanchard, both natives of Maine. The family moved to a farm in Winona county, Minnesota, in 1860, and there the subject of this review grew to young manhood. In 1876 he took employment in a flour mill at Minnesota City and in 1881 he moved to Sleepy Eye, where he was engaged in the grain business until moving to Marshall in 1893. Mr. Blanchard was one of the incorporators of the Marshall Milling Company, one of the big institutions of Lyon county, and was the first treasurer of the company. For the past five years he has been secretary and superintendent.

Grace F. Kennedy became the wife of Mr. Blanchard at Minnesota City on April 22, 1880. They have two boys, Guy and Cliff.

IVER O. SATHER (1890) is a farmer in Lucas township and has been a continuous resident of that precinct since 1890. He was born in Gubrandsdalen, Norway, January 31, 1862, a son of Ole and Mary (Erlandson) Sather. The former is deceased; the mother is still living in the Fatherland at an advanced age.

Iver received the customary bringing up of the farmer boy of his time and attended the common schools of his country until fifteen years of age. After completing his education, farm labor claimed his attention until 1884, in the spring of which year the young fellow set out for America. Upon his arrival in the United States Mr. Sather went to Otter Tail county, Minnesota, and for the next five years he found employment there as a farm laborer, afterward going to Richland county, North Dakota, and working there several months.

The spring of 1890 found Mr. Sather in Lyon county. For two years he worked on farms and then purchased the land in Lucas township which he now operates, the southeast quarter of section 21. He has a well-improved farm and a comfortable home. In addition to his general farming he is engaging to some extent in stock raising.

The subject of this sketch was married to Carrie Slette in 1890, and to this union two children have been born: Peter, born November 27, 1894, and Olaf, born January 30, 1899, both residing at home. Mrs. Sather is a native of Norway. She and her husband are members of Silo Norwegian Lutheran Church. Mr. Sather was a trustee of the church for six years.

JOHN LINDHOLM (1892) is a farmer and land owner of Coon Creek township, where he has resided twenty years. He was born in Sweden March 1, 1870. His parents are Carl and Johannah (Johnson) Larson. John received his schooling and grew to manhood in the land of his nativity.

In 1892 John Lindholm came to America and located in Lyon county. He purchased forty acres of land in Coon Creek township, which he later sold and bought the land he now owns and operates, 160 acres on section 27, Coon Creek township. He worked out for several years as a farm hand after coming to Lyon county and then engaged in

farming for himself. The land which he now owns was all prairie when he purchased it. He has improved the place and has a very fine home. He raises considerable stock in addition to his general farming. He is a member of the Swedish Mission church and owns stock in the Farmers Elevator Company of Russell.

Mr. Lindholm was married in Coon Creek township April 3, 1903, to Olive Anderson, a native of Sweden. She was a daughter of Andrew and Elna Anderson. To Mr. and Mrs. Lindholm were born three children: Reuben, Melvin and Alvira. Mrs. Lindholm died March 5, 1904. Mr. Lindholm was married a second time, to Betty Nelson, a native of Pullman, Illinois. She is a daughter of Andrew F. and Carolina Nelson, of Coon Creek township. Mr. and Mrs. Lindholm were married November 11, 1905.

R. A. BIGHAM (1896) is manager of the Ross Lumber Company at Russell and a man who has taken much interest in the affairs of his village. While his residence in Lyon county does not date back to pioneer times, he was one of the early settlers of Lincoln county and a prominent man of affairs there. He was one of the early settlers of the old town of Marshfield, which is now in existence only in the memory of the older settlers.

The gentleman whose name heads this review was born in Huntingdon county, Pennsylvania, September 22, 1853. His parents, both deceased, were natives of Northern Ireland. They were John C. and Mary (Hannah) Bigham. When two years of age R. A. Bigham accompanied his parents to Illinois, lived there one year, and then in 1857, when Minnesota was yet a territory, the family settled in Wabasha county. There young Bigham lived on his father's homestead until twenty-three years of age, and then, in 1876, he set out in life for himself.

That year he settled in the little village of Marshfield, near the present site of Lake Benton, and a few months later he was appointed county treasurer to complete an unexpired term and at the next election was chosen by the electors. He resigned the office in the spring of 1881, moved to Le Beau, Walworth county, South Dakota, and

was appointed clerk of the district court, holding the office three years.

Returning to Minnesota, Mr. Bigham began work for a grain company and for several years was so employed, being stationed at Burchard, Verdi and Florence. At the last named place he was manager of a lumber yard for a few years. He then took a position as manager of the W. H. Curren yard at Tyler and was so engaged until he located at Russell on April 1, 1896, to take the position he has ever since held.

The Ross Lumber Company is the successor at Russell of F. S. Purdy, who was the first to engage in the lumber business in the village and who sold to the Ross company in 1893. The yard at Russell has been built up to one of the large concerns of the county. It carries in stock a complete stock of lumber, coal, lime, cement and building material. The company maintains yards in Minnesota and South Dakota. The general offices are in Minneapolis, but it is a South Dakota concern, organized under the laws of that state. C. H. Ross is the president and treasurer, and H. E. Ross is vice president and secretary.

During his residence in Russell Mr. Bigham has held several local offices. He has been president of the Village Council and village recorder, holding the last named office at the present time. He is also treasurer of his school district. The Masonic, Workmen and Degree of Honor lodges have admitted Mr. Bigham to membership.

The marriage of our subject to Lucinda Hughes occurred at Marshfield on September 23, 1880. Mrs. Bigham was born in Missouri but just before the breaking out of the Civil War, when she was a child, the family moved to Wisconsin, and in 1878 they located in Lincoln county. Two children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Bigham: Joseph E., manager of the Ross Lumber Company's yard at Bancroft, South Dakota; and Harold R., who is employed as teller in the Sioux Falls Savings Bank.

JAMES J. HENNEN (1888) is a farmer and land owner of Lake Marshall township who has lived in Lyon county many years. He is a native of Holland and was born April 8, 1871. His parents were Peter A. and Helena (Beckers) Hennen. The first

eleven years of his life were spent in the land of his nativity, coming to America with his parents when he was that age. On their arrival in this country the family went to Ghent, where they stayed about a month and then moved to Brown county, Wisconsin. There they resided until 1888, when they returned to Lyon county and purchased land near Ghent. The father of our subject still resides on that place; the mother died in 1907.

In 1901 Mr. Hennen bought two hundred forty acres of land on section 22, Lake Marshall township, and took up his residence there. In the spring of 1911 he purchased eighty acres more in the same section, so that he is now the owner of the north half of section 22. His land is finely improved. He raises a great deal of stock. He is treasurer of school district No. 6 and is a member of the Catholic church and of the Modern Woodmen lodge.

At Ghent, Lyon county, on March 25, 1897, Mr. Hennen was united in marriage to Annie Vanuden, a native of Holland and a daughter of John and Anne (Hermesen) Vanuden. To this union have been born the following named ten children: Arnold, John, Theodore, Herbert, Hellen, Annie, Christina, George, Joe and Henry.

WILLIAM H. BOT (1886) is a successful young business man of Ghent. He is the proprietor of a pool hall and handles confectionery, cigars and soft drinks in connection. He owns 240 acres of land two miles east of Ghent and 160 acres on the White Earth Reservation, in Northern Minnesota. Mr. Bot is also a shareholder of the Farmers Elevator Company of Ghent.

Mr. Bot's parents, William H. and Debora (Schrueder) Bot, were Hollanders, and William was born in Holland December 23, 1880. His father died in 1908; the mother lives in Ghent. William went to school for several years in his native land and accompanied his parents to America in 1886. The father bought 480 acres of land one mile east of Ghent and the family made their home on the farm. The lad worked on the farm with the father until twenty-eight years of age. In July, 1909, he moved to Ghent and purchased his present business from

Theodore Sanders, which he has since conducted with success.

November 11, 1908, occurred the ceremony which united William H. Bot and Mary Stassen in the holy bonds of matrimony. Mary Stassen's parents were natives of Belgium, and she was born there. Mr. and Mrs. Bot are the parents of two children, Louis and Debora Elizabeth. The Bots are members of the Catholic church and Mr. Bot is a member of the Catholic Order of Foresters.

JOHN MATTSON (1883) is one of the older residents of Eidsvold township, having lived on the farm he now conducts nearly thirty years. He is a successful farmer and one of the respected men of his precinct.

The birth of Mr. Mattson occurred in Sweden October 9, 1849, and in that country he lived until twenty-three years of age. He came to America in 1874, worked on a farm in Illinois one year, and then went to Redwood City, San Mateo county, California. There he and a brother, Isaac Mattson, and M. M. Stram engaged in the wood business three years.

Returning to the old country at the end of that time, Mr. Mattson was married and spent six months in the land of his birth. He came again to the United States, lived three years in Denver, Colorado, a few months in Minneapolis, and in 1883 became a resident of Lyon county. At that time he bought the east half of the southwest quarter of section 3, Eidsvold township, and began its cultivation. He set out the grove on the place, erected the buildings, fenced the land, and has made all the improvements on the farm. In 1891 Mr. Mattson purchased the north half of the northwest quarter of his home section and in 1912 he bought the west half of the southwest quarter of the same section, making him the owner of a 240-acre farm in one piece. With the help of his sons, Alfred, Albert and David, Mr. Mattson farms his entire acreage.

The parents of our subject were Magnus and Lena M. (Watterstrom) Isaacson. Both died in 1880, the mother on February 29, the father in March. There were ten children in the family, of whom the following named eight are living: Anne Stina Wal-

mon, Isaac, John, Anders, Maria, Magnus, Inga Pearson and Peter U.

John Mattson was married in Sweden May 30, 1879, and his bride was Annie S. Bergerson. Their children are Ernest, who is married and lives in Minneota; Alfred, Albert, David and Bertha, who live at home. All have been well educated.

EDGAR T. MAXSON (1873) is engaged in the insurance business in Marshall, where he represents the Pacific Mutual Life of Los Angeles, California, the State Farmers Mutual of Waseca, and the Indiana & Ohio Live Stock Insurance Company of Crawfordsville, Indiana.

Our subject was born in Winnebago City, Minnesota, April 7, 1868, and is a son of William T. and Adelia (Woodruff) Maxson, the former of whom died in 1904 and the latter being still a resident of Marshall. William T. Maxson was a soldier in the Civil War, enlisting from Mankato in Company D, Ninth Minnesota Volunteers, in 1861 and serving throughout the war, being honorably discharged. He was a charter member of D. F. Markham Post, G. A. R., of Marshall. He and his wife, natives of New York and Vermont, took as a homestead in 1873 the southeast quarter of section 19, Grandview township, Lyon county. They moved to Marshall when Edgar was twenty-one years old.

Edgar worked on his father's farm in his youth, and when the family moved to Marshall father and son went into the dray and transfer business together. Edgar ran the first street sprinkler through Marshall's business streets, getting the water from the river. In 1903 the father sold his interest to his son and retired from active work, Edgar carrying on the business three years longer. He then sold out and with his brother William started the Maxson Brothers Bottling Works and put in the deep well which has made the "Silver Springs" soft water so well known. After a few months our subject bought his brother's interest and conducted the plant for two years, after which he sold to A. C. Porter, and has since been engaged in the insurance business.

Edgar Maxson was married at Rose Hill on November 12, 1896, to Dora L. Buchert, a native of Wisconsin. They have four chil-

dren, Inez, Verne, Marvel and Violet. Guy Edgar, a son by Mr. Maxson's first wife, is agent for the Great Northern railway at Corsen, South Dakota. Edgar Maxson has two sisters, Mary H. (Mrs. R. F. Laythe), of Hanley, Canada, and Maud (Mrs. W. G. Weldon), of Redwood Falls, and a brother, William, of Marshall.

EDWARD MILLER (1887) rents and farms the northeast quarter of section 3, Rock Lake township. He was born in Outagamie county, Wisconsin, July 25, 1866, and is a son of Frederick and Dora (Schroeder) Miller, the former of whom is deceased and the mother being a resident of Marshall. Mr. and Mrs. Fred Miller became Lyon county residents in the nineties and farmed one year, afterward moving to Marshall.

Edward received his education in Wisconsin, where he went to country school until the age of fifteen, after which he worked for his father on the farm until he was twenty-one. Coming to Lyon county in the spring of 1887, he worked on a farm near Marshall one year and the next year, in company with his brother, Will, rented land near Marshall and farmed four years. He then purchased land in Lake Marshall township and farmed four years for himself. Selling his Lyon county property, Edward moved to the northern part of the state and bought land near Brainerd. He and his wife were postmaster and assistant postmaster at Neutral, near Brainerd, three years, and after six years they returned to Marshall, where he worked as teamster two years, after which he resumed farming near the town four years.

In 1906 Mr. Miller moved to the Forbes farm near Lynd and farmed one year. The succeeding four years he spent on the Schroeder farm in Lyons township, and in the fall of 1911 our subject moved to the place where he now resides. Mr. Miller was married November 25, 1889, to Ella Wunderlich, at Watertown, South Dakota. His wife was born August 6, 1867, in Wisconsin, and her parents, Wolf and Emma (Graetz) Wunderlich, were for twenty years residents of Lynd township, Lyon county, later moving to Brainerd, where the father still is living. The Millers are members of the Presbyterian church. They are the parents of seven chil-

dren, as follows: Fern (Mrs. Wilmar Sowb), of Custer township; Iva, Frances, Elva, Roy, Erna and Eugene.

JOHN SNIDAL (1882), who owns and farms the southeast quarter of section 4, Westerheim township, has lived in Lyon county many years. He was born in Iceland October 27, 1848, the son of Sever and Inga Snidal. His mother died in Iceland and his father in Lyon county in 1910 at the age of ninety-nine years. For twenty-seven years before his death he had made his home with his son.

At the age of thirty-one years, in 1879, John Snidal left his native land and settled in a colony of his countrymen in Canada. Three years later he joined the Lyon county colony and he has ever since been a resident of the county. The first year he worked for Bjorn Gislason, the next two years he farmed school land in Westerheim township, the next year he resided in Marshall. After having farmed rented land several years, in 1890 he bought his present land. He has made all the improvements on it and has ever since resided on the place.

Mr. Snidal was married in Westerheim township November 6, 1884, to Christine Gislason, also a native of Iceland. Their children are Sarah, Mary, Alfred, Bjorn, Carl, Engie, Oluf, Dena and Lilly. Bjorn, Carl and Alfred assist their father in the management of the farm. The family are members of the Icelandic Lutheran church.

THOMAS U. JOHNSON (1886), a farmer of Amiret township, is the owner of the south half of the northeast quarter of section 24.

He was born and brought up in England, having been born in 1845. He is the son of Robert and Jane Johnson, who were farmers, and they gave their son his bringing up and his education in the country schools in England. At the early age of fifteen Thomas began to learn the stone mason's trade, and he was employed at that work most of the time until coming to the United States in 1882.

That year Mr. Johnson came to this country and found employment at his trade in Pennsylvania, where he remained four years. He then moved to Lyon county and decided to farm. Accordingly he bought a tree

claim right to the south half of the northeast quarter of section 24, Amiret township, which he later changed to a homestead. On that place he has since resided, with the exception of a few years spent in Tracy and other parts of the county, working at his former trade.

Thomas U. Johnson was married in England to Margrette Charlton. To this union five children have been born, named Robert, Annie, Thomas, Margretti and Rachel.

KNUTE RONNING (1872), son of early settlers of Lyon county, is the owner of one of Shelburne township's well improved quarter sections. He lives on the southeast quarter of section 19.

Knute Ronning was born March 10, 1870, in Fillmore county, this state. His parents, Mr. and Mrs. Erick Ronning, were natives of Norway and came to this country in 1869. Knute has since 1872 lived in Lyon county. He attended school in Tyler during his youth and from the time he was sixteen until he became of age worked on his father's farm. Later he bought grain for a few years at Florence and continued to help with the work on the home farm for several years, working with a threshing outfit during the falls. After his marriage in 1903 Mr. Ronning worked at the carpenter's trade. A few years ago our subject purchased the quarter upon which he now resides and engaged in farming.

Mr. Ronning was married June 13, 1903, to Olava Olsen, a native of Fillmore county. Mrs. Ronning was born in 1879 and is a daughter of Ole and Mary Olsen. Mr. and Mrs. Ronning are the parents of the following children: Edgar, Paul and Carl. One child, Clifford, died.

Knute Ronning is a member of the Modern Woodmen lodge. For fifteen years he has been township clerk, was justice of the peace six years, and constable four years. He is an ardent sportsman, and every fall when the hunting season opens he takes a "hike" to Northern Minnesota or Wisconsin to spend a week deer and moose hunting.

HUGH L. EDWARDS (1899) is a farmer of Sodus township who has resided in Lyon county for the past thirteen years. He is

the owner of 120 acres of land on section 23. Hugh is a native of the Gopher State and was born in Blue Earth county January 29, 1875, a son of William and Elizabeth (Morgan) Edwards.

The subject of this sketch received his early education in the county in which he was born and later attended the Tracy High School two years. He assisted his father on the farm until 1899, when he came to Lyon county, where his father bought land. With his father Hugh made his home until 1905, when he bought the farm which he still owns and operates, 120 acres on section 23, Sodus township. In addition to farming, Mr. Edwards raises stock, including Duroc-Jersey hogs and Buff Wyandotte chickens. He is a member of the M. W. A. lodge and a stockholder of the Current Lake Telephone Company.

Lillie B. Williamson became the wife of our subject in Tracy on June 16, 1902. Mrs. Edwards is a native of Wisconsin and was born in Trempealeau county December 23, 1871. They have one child, Clifford L., born May 19, 1903.

REV. B. B. JONSSON (1894) is the pastor of the Icelandic Lutheran church of Minnesota. He is a native of Iceland and was born June 19, 1870, a son of Bjorn and Thorbjorg (Bjornsdottor) Jonsson. The father died some years ago and the mother resides with the subject of this review.

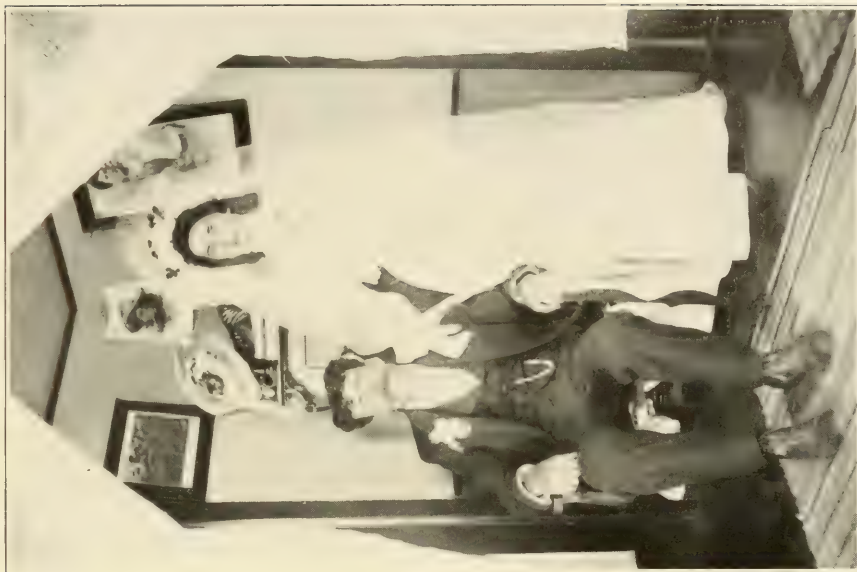
Our subject immigrated with his parents to Canada in 1876 and attended the schools in the Province of Manitoba until fifteen years of age. He then took a course in the Winnipeg Business College, from which he was graduated. Later he attended Gustavus Adolphus College, at St. Peter, Minnesota, taking a classical course. He attended the English Lutheran Theological Seminary at Chicago, where he matriculated in the classics and was graduated in theology in May, 1893.

Rev. Jonsson was ordained the following June, but later took post-graduate work at the same school. He spent one year as traveling missionary for the Icelandic Evangelical Lutheran Synod of America, in Canada, visiting congregations already established and organizing new ones. His work was in Western Canada.



HUGH L. EDWARDS AND FAMILY.

Mr. Edwards is a Farmer of Sodus Township and  
a Native of Minnesota.



MR. AND MRS. KNUTE E. RONNING

Mr. Ronning is a Farmer of Shelburne Township  
and Has Lived in That Precinct  
Forty Years.



In 1894 Rev. Jonsson came to Lyon county and located at Minneota, where he has since served as pastor of the Icelandic Lutheran church and more recently of the English Lutheran church, also. He served as secretary of the Icelandic Evangelical Lutheran Synod of America eight years and was elected to the presidency in June, 1908. He served as chaplain of the State Senate of Minnesota in 1909. Rev. Jonsson has also served as editor and assistant editor of several publications and is still engaged in this work.

DAN HASBARGEN (1895), in partnership with his brother-in-law, John H. Johnson, engages in farming on an extensive scale in Shelburne township. The partners own the northwest quarter of section 25, the southwest quarter of section 24 and the northeast quarter of the southeast quarter of section 23, and they farm the entire tract.

The subject of this review was born in Iroquois county, Illinois, February 6, 1869, and resided on his father's farm in that county until twenty-four years of age. He then left home and for a couple of years was engaged in various occupations. He came to Lyon county in 1895, and for a year was employed as a farm hand and with threshing and hay baling crews. Mr. Hasbargen spent the next year in his old home, but in 1897 he returned to Lyon county with his brother-in-law to make permanent residence. One quarter was purchased at the time of arrival and was improved by the partners; later they added by purchase the other property.

Dan Hasbargen is the son of Kayson D. and Elizabeth (Greenhoff) Hasbargen. The parents were born in Germany, came to America in 1864, were married in Iroquois county, Illinois, and have ever since resided on a farm purchased soon after their arrival. Mr. Hasbargen is seventy-six years of age, his wife seventy-four. Of eight children born to them the following four are living: Henry, Dan, Breke and Maggie.

Rachael Johnson became the wife of Mr. Hasbargen on March 30, 1899. She was born in Iroquois county, Illinois, and is the daughter of Henry Johnson.

PETER DIERICKX (1901) is one of the prosperous farmers and large land owners of

Fairview township. His landed possessions consist of 349 acres on section 7, Fairview, and 160 acres on section 8, Grandview. The home place, the northwest quarter of section 7, Fairview, is improved with fine buildings and is an exceptionally fine farm. A flowing well of soft water is on the place and the water is piped to the house and barn.

The gentleman who conducts this farm was born in Belgium October 9, 1846, a son of Engel and Emely (Deroo) Dierickx. In his native land he received his schooling and grew to manhood. At the age of twenty-five years, in 1871 Mr. Dierickx came to America and spent many years in Henry county, Illinois. The first five years he worked as a farm hand and then engaged in farming for himself. From Henry county, Illinois, he came to Lyon county in 1901, bought his Fairview farm at that time, and later added to his possessions by the purchase of the quarter section in Grandview. Mr. Dierickx raises Shorthorn cattle and Poland China hogs.

The marriage of our subject to Rosa Overmire occurred in Illinois November 29, 1880. She was born in Belgium September 30, 1862. Her parents, Peter and Jane (Paquer) Overmire, died in Illinois. Mr. and Mrs. Dierickx have four children: John, Julia, Charles and Edward. The family are members of the Catholic church of Ghent.

GEORGE B. CALEY (1879), a missionary of the American Sunday School Union, has spent all except the first year of his life in Lyon county and now resides in Marshall. He was born in Dover, Racine county, Wisconsin, May 15, 1878, and the next year accompanied his parents to Lyon county. He resided on the farm in Sodus township until 1895, when the family located in Marshall.

Mr. Caley received his education in the Marshall High School and thereafter engaged in several occupations. He took a home collegiate course and was ordained a minister of the Methodist Episcopal church at St. Paul in October, 1910. He has devoted much time to Sunday School and church work and is now a missionary of the American Sunday School Union, his district embracing the counties of Lyon, Lincoln, Redwood, Yellow Medicine and Lac qui Parle.

He conducts services at the various churches throughout his district. Mr. Caley holds membership in the Masonic and Modern Brotherhood lodges.

The subject of this review is a son of the late Charles E. Caley and Martia E. (Cady) Caley, who resides in Marshall. The father was born in the Isle of Man. He came to Lyon county in 1879, took a tree claim on section 6, Sodus township, and resided there until 1895, when he located in Marshall. He died in September, 1910, at the age of sixty-six years. There are five children in the family, as follows: H. Delano, of Glenwood, who was formerly a merchant of Marshall; Lottie L. (Mrs. D. W. Harvey), of St. Paul; Harry E., of St. Paul; George B. and Edith Joyce (Mrs. Frank W. Case), of Marshall.

The marriage of our subject to Nettie S. Bates occurred in Marshall September 19, 1900. She was born in Grandview township, Lyon county, March 17, 1881, and is the daughter of Lewis Bates, who came to the county in the early seventies. Four children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Caley, as follows: Evelyn M., Marjorie R., G. Burdette and Millicent E. The last named died April 4, 1907, at the age of two and one-half years.

KAY C. HUMPHREY (1900) is a Sodus township farmer and land owner. He was born in Green county, Wisconsin, December 9, 1869, the son of Albert N. and Lina (Baldwin) Humphrey. The parents were born in New York State and settled in Wisconsin in an early day.

When Kay was four years of age the family moved to Monroe, Jasper county, Iowa, and there our subject received his schooling and spent his boyhood days. In 1882 his father died, and Kay and his mother returned to Wisconsin, to the village of Broadhead. That was Kay Humphrey's home for the next fifteen years, during which time he was engaged as a store clerk and at farm labor. Two year were spent with an uncle in Grundy county, Iowa, and then in 1900 Mr. Humphrey became a resident of Lyon county.

Upon his arrival Mr. Humphrey purchased his present farm, the southeast quarter of section 16 and the west half of the south-

west quarter of section 15, Sodus township. He engages quite extensively in stock raising as well as grain farming. He is clerk of school district No. 84 and has been township clerk for eight years. Mr. Humphrey is a member of the Yeomen lodge.

In his native county in Wisconsin Mr. Humphrey was married on February 12, 1899, to Nellie Hulbert. She is a native of that county and was born on New Year's Day, 1870. Her father, John Hulbert, was born in New York; her mother, Lorinda (Smiley) Hulbert, in Wisconsin. Mr. and Mrs. Humphrey have one child, Helen May, born May 30, 1911.

EDWARD MAERTENS (1883) commenced farming for himself in Grandview township in 1892 with little or no capital to start on, and by industry and intelligent farming he has accumulated 713 acres of the township's best land and made himself one of Grandview's prosperous farmers.

He was born in Belgium October 2, 1864, and is a son of Henry and Anna (DeRuwe) Maertens, now deceased. The parents came to America and located in Lyon county in the fall of 1883, the father purchasing land in Grandview township. Edward received his early education in Belgium and later attended a country school in Lyon county until nineteen years of age. He then worked on his father's farm until 1892, in which year he married, purchased land, and started farming for himself. He moved to his present place in 1899 and is now successfully engaged in farming and stock raising.

Our subject's mother died on the Grandview farm in 1895. The father soon after returned to his native land, where he died June 26, 1908. Edward is one of eight children, six of whom are living, as follows: Clemence, of Belgium; Anna (deceased), Edward, of this sketch; August, of Ghent; Ida (Mrs. B. F. Claeys), of Grandview township; Henry (deceased), Julia (Mrs. Regnier Bot), of Grandview township; and Hippolet, of Ghent.

Edward Maertens was married June 29, 1892, to Theresia Bot, the ceremony taking place at Ghent. Mrs. Maertens was born November 29, 1870, and died August 21, 1907. She was a daughter of William H. and

Debora (Schrueder) Bot, of whom the former is deceased and the latter is a resident of Ghent. Her parents were early settlers of the township. To Mr. and Mrs. Maertens were born the following children: Gustave Joseph, born May 22, 1894; William Alphonse, born October 26, 1896; Hero Joseph, born May 5, 1898; Henry Edward, born July 25, 1900; and Bernard Edward, born June 2, 1905. Another child died in infancy.

Mr. Maertens served six years as chairman of the Township Board and several terms as road overseer. He was one of the organizers of and is a stockholder and secretary of the Farmers Elevator Company of Ghent. He is a member of the Catholic church of Ghent and was formerly one of its trustees.

GEORGE D. TRACY (1903) is a wholesale dealer in poultry, eggs and butter at Tracy and carries on one of the largest business enterprises in the city. He handles more poultry than any other house in Minnesota. During 1911 more than sixty car loads of poultry were shipped, representing a cash value of \$100,000, and about twenty-five car loads of eggs were handled. A large territory is covered, extending into South Dakota. The business is housed in a three-story 36x56 feet building erected in 1908.

The gentleman who carries on the business was born in Jesup, Iowa, April 5, 1874. At the age of fourteen years he moved to Spencer, Iowa, where he secured his education and grew to manhood. There in 1896 he engaged in the poultry business, which he has ever since followed. From the year mentioned until he moved to Tracy in November, 1903, Mr. Tracy was a member of the firm of Culbertson & Tracy.

Mr. Tracy is a stockholder of the Tracy Garage Company and owns a half section farm in Shetek township, Murray county. He is a member of the Odd Fellows and Workmen lodges.

Albert G. and Angeline P. (Starkey) Tracy, the parents of our subject, were born in Ohio and moved to Jesup, Iowa, in the early seventies. Later they moved to Spencer, where both died. They were the parents of the following children: Addie, the wife of Dr. W. P. Woodcock, of Spencer, Iowa;

George D., of this biography; Minnie, the wife of A. J. Cuttall, of Spokane, Washington; and Bert, of Peterson, Iowa.

George D. Tracy was married March 7, 1900, at Sutherland, Iowa, to Leonora M. Barry, a native of Iowa. They have three children, Margaret, Addison and Donald.

WILLIAM F. HAACK (1899), owner of the northeast quarter of section 24, Rock Lake township, was born in Germany May 18, 1865, his parents, Joahim and Mary Haack, being now deceased.

Our subject received his early education in Germany, in a graded school, and during the greater part of his teens he worked as a hack driver, continuing at that work until twenty-two years of age. He then enlisted in the German Army and served three years. In the fall of 1889 William immigrated to the United States and made his home for the next five years in the neighborhood of Redfield, South Dakota, where he worked as a farm hand. Young Haack was ambitious to get into farming for himself and made the first step in that direction when he rented land near Redfield and farmed three years, moving from Redfield to Waterville, Minnesota, and again worked as a farm hand two years.

Lyon county was Mr. Haack's destination after leaving Waterville, and he located in Sodus township, where he rented land and farmed two years. He then purchased his farm in Rock Lake and has farmed there ever since. Mr. Haack raises considerable stock and ships Shorthorn cattle and Poland China hogs to the markets.

October 1, 1899, in Lyons township occurred the marriage of William Haack and Sophia Klucas, a native of Germany. Mrs. Haack was born October 18, 1878, and is a daughter of William Klucas, of Lyons township. Mr. and Mrs. Haack have eight children, named as follows: Walter, Otto, Helmut, Hannah, Martha, Luther, Elsie and Arthur. Mr. Haack is a member of the German Methodist church.

LEE O. ALEXANDER (1885) is a farmer who resides in the village of Lynd. He is a native of Lyon county and was born in Lynd township on June 8, 1885. He is a

son of A. E. Alexander, a real estate dealer of Lynd. His parents are natives of New York State.

Lee received his early education in the district schools of Lynd township. Later he attended the Marshall High School, from which he was graduated in 1905, and then attended the Mankato Normal School one term. He is a member of the Lynd Methodist Episcopal church. He bought grain for the Northwestern Elevator Company at South Shore, South Dakota, and later at Lynd, working for the company about three and one-half years. He then engaged in the implement business for one year, at the end of which time he sold to O. M. Larson, who still conducts the business. Mr. Alexander was census enumerator for Lynd township in 1910.

He owns and operates what is known as the Gilman quarter (the northeast quarter of section 26), the Morgan Homestead (the northeast quarter of section 34), and the Judge Rice Grove, consisting of eleven acres, which was an Indian camping ground when the first white settlers came to Lyon county.

On July 8, 1908, Mr. Alexander was united in marriage to Susie G. Oliver, a daughter of Henry and Susan G. Oliver. Mrs. Alexander is a native of Lyon county and was born October 25, 1886. They have a daughter, Marian S., born January 3, 1912.

HERMAN F. WEIDAUER (1906) is the owner of the southwest quarter of section 18, Lake Marshall township, where he has resided six years. He was born in Saxony, Germany, January 1, 1875, and is the son of August and Dakle (Derckle) Weidauer. When seven years of age Herman accompanied his parents to America, locating near Philo, Illinois, where the father purchased land and farmed until 1892. At that time the father sold his Illinois land and moved to Calhoun county, Iowa, where he purchased land and has resided since.

Herman resided with his parents until he reached his majority, when he married, bought land, and started farming for himself. In 1904 he sold his Iowa land and rented for two years. In 1905, while living in Iowa, Mr. Weidauer purchased the southwest quarter of section 18, Lake Marshall township, which he still owns and operates.

In 1906 he moved with his family to this place. Mr. Weidauer is a member of the German Evangelical church and is treasurer of school district No. 94.

In Calhoun county, on March 11, 1896, Anni R. Hout became the wife of Mr. Weidauer. She is a native of Princeton, Illinois, and a daughter of Henry and Matilda (Caskup) Hout, the farmer born in Germany and the latter in Illinois. Mrs. Weidauer was born October 15, 1874. To Mr. and Mrs. Weidauer have been born the following named children: Matilda, born December 30, 1896; Bertha, born May 28, 1898; Laura, born September 19, 1899; Emma, born October 18, 1900; Henry, born May 9, 1902; August, born October 16, 1905; Joseph, born March 31, 1909.

ERNEST SMITH (1893) is manager of the Willmar Milling Company's Elevator at Russell. He was born in the Wolverine State; in Allegan county, October 10, 1868. When he was a child the family moved to Montcalm county, Michigan, where they resided until 1886. During that time our subject attended school and grew to manhood. In 1886 he moved to Brown county, South Dakota, where he farmed two years, and then engaged in the grain business at Port Emma, North Dakota, and at Yale, South Dakota, until 1893.

In the last named year Mr. Smith came to Lyon county and located at Russell, where he entered the employ of the Northwestern Elevator Company. He worked for that company five years. The next four years Mr. Smith was out of business, and in 1902 he entered the employ of the Willmar Milling Company.

The elevator now owned by the Willmar Milling Company was built in 1900 by Andrews & McGandy, who conducted it two years and then sold to Reinke Brothers, of Iona Lake. Reinke Brothers operated it three years and sold to the present owners. The home office of the Willmar Milling Company is at Willmar, Minnesota. Marcus Johnson, of Minneapolis, is president of the company. Their house at Russell has a capacity of 15,000 bushels. They handle grain, fuel, flour and feed. Mr. Smith has had charge of the elevator since it was purchased in 1902 by Reinke Brothers.

The parents of our subject were Stephen J. and Charlotte J. (Everest) Smith, natives of New York State. They came West when young and located in Michigan, where they were married. In 1886 they moved to South Dakota. Mrs. Smith died in 1895 at West Superior, Wisconsin, and Mr. Smith in Russell September 8, 1909. Ernest Smith is the only child.

Mr. Smith was married June 4, 1894, at Iroquois, South Dakota, to Jennie Patton, a native of Lodi, Wisconsin.

Our subject is a member of the A. F. & A. M. and the A. O. U. W. lodges. He was one of the first members of the Village Council and served one term as village recorder.

WILLIAM LA VOIE (1892) owns the southeast quarter of section 32, Amiret township, and rents and farms the northwest quarter of section 16 of the same township, on which place he makes his home.

William La Voie was born in Kankakee county, Illinois, March 1, 1872. He is a son of Cyril and Sarah (La Rue) La Voie, natives of Canada, who came to the United States and located in Illinois during the Civil War. Cyril La Voie served in the Union army during part of the war, and afterwards the parents resided on their farm in Kankakee county until their deaths. William's boyhood was spent in Kankakee county and there he went to the country school and helped his father on the farm, and when his education was completed he assumed his share of the farm work until 1892.

Our subject had then reached his twentieth year, and he left home to make his own way in life. He located in Lyon county and was employed on John Craig's dray line for some months and worked on a threshing rig in the fall. M. D. Hahn then obtained his services for one year on his farm. Since that time Mr. La Voie has been farming for himself, having rented at different times farms in Amiret and Monroe townships. In the spring of 1911 he purchased the quarter on section 32, but he continues to farm his rented place on section 16. Mr. La Voie is devoting much of his time to stock raising and favors the Shorthorn cattle and the Duroc-Jersey and Poland China hogs. He is

a shareholder in the Farmers Co-operative Creamery Company of Tracy.

The marriage of William La Voie and Mary Van Dusen took place in Monroe township February 24, 1895. Mrs. La Voie is a native of Rice county, Minnesota, and is a daughter of Charles and Fannie (Staley) Van Dusen. They were pioneer settlers of Lyon county, having located here in the spring of 1878. The former is deceased; Mrs. Van Dusen is a resident of Monroe township. To Mr. and Mrs. La Voie the following children have been born: Marie, born April 8, 1896; Mark, born September 2, 1897; Lawrence, born August 5, 1902; William, born January 6, 1906; Van, born October 31, 1907; and Kenneth, born January 20, 1911. All the children are at home with their parents.

Mr. La Voie is a member of the Catholic church of Tracy. He is a member of the Modern Woodmen lodge.

MIKE STASSEN (1891) conducts a hotel and saloon in the village of Ghent. Mr. Stassen was born in Belgium March 27, 1873, and came to the United States in 1891, settling in Fairview township on his father's farm, where he resided until 1906. That year he moved to Ghent and purchased a half interest in his brother's saloon and hotel.

The subject of this review is a son of Loui and Elizabeth Stassen, who came to the United States in 1891 and located in Fairview township, buying land on section 19, where they still reside. They have the following ten children living: Jacob, Catherine, John, Theodore, Mike, Joe, Mary, Mattie, Loui and Milline.

At Minneota, May 29, 1907, Mr. Stassen was married to Elizabeth Bankers, a native of Wisconsin. Mr. and Mrs. Stassen are the parents of the following named three children: Helen, Louise and Loui.

LAWRENCE McDONALD (1882) owns a farm of 400 acres in Eidsvold township and has a well-improved place. He is rated as one of the substantial men of his precinct, in which he has resided thirty years. His home place is the south half of the southwest quarter of section 28.

Mr. McDonald was born in County Carlow, Ireland, February 5, 1842. His parents are Michael and Bridget (Breen) McDonald, both of whom died in the old country. Lawrence lived at home until fifteen years of age and his next three years were spent on the sea, as a hand on a sailing vessel. He landed in New York City June 3, 1860, and has ever since resided in America. Mr. McDonald worked as a farm hand in New York State until 1874, and thereafter until 1882 he was foreman of a large farm in Essex county, Massachusetts.

While living in Massachusetts, Mr. McDonald came in contact with literature sent out by Bishop Ireland, advertising the opportunities to be found in the West and in that gentleman's colony in Lyon county in particular. Mr. McDonald was impressed and in February, 1882, he left his employment in the East and came to Lyon county. At that time he purchased a homestead right to eighty acres in Eidsvold township for \$625, sent for his family, and began farming on his own account. He experienced hardships incident to life in Lyon county in the early eighties, but he overcame all difficulties and has prospered.

Mr. McDonald and his family are members of the Catholic church of Minneota and he was one of the first members of that church. Several years he was road overseer of his district. He was one of the organizers of the Farmers Elevator Company of Minneota and he still has stock in the company.

At Lowell, Massachusetts, on September 15, 1874, Mr. McDonald was married to Rose Ann McGovern, also a native of Ireland. They have five children: Lawrence, Joseph and Margaret, who reside at home; John, of Hopkins, Minnesota; and Edward, of Pocatello, Idaho.

HOMER R. SWIFT (1889) is the proprietor of the west half of the northeast quarter of section 7, Amiret township.

He was born in Erie county, Pennsylvania, September 14, 1858, and is a son of Homer C. and Samantha (Wicks) Swift, natives of Connecticut. The former is deceased and the latter is now a resident of Waseca, Minnesota. The father came to Lyon county in the early seventies and traded his team and wagon and \$100 in cash for a quarter section

of land in Amiret township. He made his home in Lyon county several years.

Homer Swift received his early education in Pennsylvania, where he attended school until eighteen years of age. He then moved to Summit county, Ohio, and worked in factories in Akron several years. He was married in 1878 and bought land and farmed near Akron until the spring of 1889, when he moved to Lyon county and purchased his present land from the Winona & St. Peter Railroad Company. He has been a continuous resident of the county ever since. He is at present engaged in stock raising in addition to his general farm work. Mr. Swift was a member of the Amiret Township Board of Supervisors one term.

August 4, 1878, Homer Swift married Sarah A. Snyder at Akron, Ohio. She is a native of that state and was born February 1, 1862. To this union have been born the following children: Mrytle (Mrs. Oliver Swift), of Minneapolis; Fay Arthur, May and Jay, at home; and Pearl, of Marshall. Mr. Swift has two brothers and three sisters living: Arthur, of Raymond, Minnesota; Frank, of Copley, Ohio; Rose (Mrs. Charles Whipple), of Waseca; Hattie (Mrs. Lobal), of Oil City, Pennsylvania; and Flora, of Chicago.

MICHAEL E. GRANNAN (1895), sheriff of Lyon county, was born in Livingston county, Illinois, November 3, 1869. He resided on a farm in that county until seventeen years of age and received a common school education. He lived in Streator, Illinois, one year, and then made his home in Chicago until coming to Lyon county in 1895. In Chicago he was engaged in several different occupations, being on the police force two years.

Upon his arrival to Lyon county in 1895, Mr. Grannan took employment by the month on the farm of Peter White. The next year he engaged in farming in Lynd township and was so engaged four years. He located in Marshall after quitting the farm, and that city has since been his home. He conducted a saloon one year and then formed a partnership with Peter White and engaged in buying and shipping stock, the firm being styled White & Grannan. He was so engaged two years, and for the next two and one-half

years was chief of police. He resigned that position to engage in the campaign for election to the office of sheriff, to which he was elected in the fall of 1906. He has been twice re-elected.

Sheriff Grannan was married in Marshall February 16, 1904, to Henrietta Riley. She was born near Dodge Center, Minnesota, and is the daughter of John Riley. Mr. and Mrs. Grannan have two children, Ethlyn Mary and Stephen Vincent. Mr. Grannan is a member of the Modern Woodmen and Knights of Columbus orders.

The subject of this biography is a son of Bernard and Katherine (Conroy) Grannan. They were born in Ireland, came to America in their youth, and were married in New York. They settled at Morris, Grundy county, Illinois, about 1859 and later moved to Livingston county, where they died. There are seven living children in the family, as follows: John, of Chicago; Stephen, of Streator, Illinois; Ellen, of Livingston county; Mary (Mrs. Bernard Kelley), of Livingston county; Bernard, a police officer of Chicago; Daniel J., deputy sheriff of Lyon county; and Michael E. The oldest son, Joseph W., died in 1906.

LEON CARON (1883) has resided on the southeast quarter of section 4, Grandview township, ever since coming to the county twenty-nine year ago. He is the owner of 560 acres in the township and rents out all the land except the home quarter, which he conducts himself.

Theodore and Julia (Constantine) Caron, parents of our subject, were born in Canada and moved to Kankakee county, Illinois, in the early days. In 1883 they moved to Lyon county and the father bought the quarter where he now lives with his son Leon, at the advanced age of eighty-six years. His wife died several years ago. There were seven children born to Theodore and Julia Caron, as follows: Cecile Regnier, Lizzie Regnier, Bertha, Patriode, Maria, Leon and Phil. Maria and Phil reside on the old home place with their father and their brother Leon. There were two other children: Peter, who died in 1899, aged forty-four years, and George, who died in 1879 at the age of eighty years.

The subject of this sketch was born in

Bourbonnais, Illinois, May 15, 1876. He came with his parents to Lyon county in 1883, has always lived at home, and of late years has had charge of the home farm. The Caron family are members of the Catholic church.

THOMAS F. WALSH (1880) is the proprietor of a blacksmith and repair shop in Minneota. He is a native of Illinois and was born in Bloomington March 6, 1872. His parents were Walter and Bridget (Donovan) Walsh, natives of Ireland. They were married in Illinois and came to Lyon county in the spring of 1880. The father died in 1907 and the mother in August, 1901. They were the parents of the following children: Nellie, Maggie, Bessie (deceased), Annie, Walter, Cornelius and Thomas F.

Thomas accompanied his parents to Lyon county in 1880 and has resided in the county since, with the exception of four years spent in North and South Dakota. He attended school and grew to manhood on his father's farm in Westerheim township, where he resided sixteen years. He then moved to Marshall and learned the blacksmith's trade, after which he worked at Watertown, South Dakota, and Fargo, North Dakota, four years. In 1896 he went to Taunton, where he conducted a blacksmith shop five years; then he went to Minneota and has since conducted a shop there. Mr. Walsh is a member of the M. W. A. and K. C. lodges. He was a member of the Minneota Village Council one year.

Mr. Walsh was married at Taunton November 4, 1902, to Nellie Ahern, a native of Springfield, Illinois. She is a daughter of Garret Ahern, an early settler of Taunton. Mr. and Mrs. Walsh are the parents of two children, Thomas W. and Garrett F.

HANS J. BREDEVEIEN (1884) is the proprietor of the Garvin dray line and an early settler of Lyon county. He is a native of Norway and was born December 29, 1841, a son of John and Annie (Peterson) Larson, both of whom are deceased.

Our subject received his education in the land of his nativity, where he attended school until fourteen years of age. He then engaged as a farm hand. His first year's compensation was three dollars in cash and

a suit of clothes, and the highest wages he received in the old country was fourteen dollars a year and a suit of clothes. In 1867 Mr. Bredeveien came to America and located in Fillmore county, Minnesota, where he purchased land and resided until 1884.

At that time our subject came to Lyon county and purchased land in Custer township, buying 240 acres, which he later sold. In the spring of 1904 Mr. Bredeveien moved to Garvin, where he has since been engaged in the dray business. He is the owner of several lots and a fine residence and is the possessor of 160 acres of land in Northern Minnesota.

Mr. Bredeveien was married July 15, 1868, to Annie Knutson, a native of Norway. She died in March, 1911. They were the parents of the following children: Annie (Mrs. Carl Holden), of Garvin; Betsey (Mrs. Evon Ronning), Lena (Mrs. Ole Peterson), Lizzie (Mrs. L. Coburn), Julia and Christine, all of whom reside in or near Garvin.

GEORGE MOFFATT (1890) is manager and grain buyer for the E. S. Mooers Elevator Company at Lynd. He has held the office of justice of the peace in that village for three years and is a land holder in Lyons township and a property holder in the village of Lynd.

George is a native of Scotland and was born in Glasgow on November 22, 1872, a son of George Moffatt, a stock broker, and Isabella (Morton) Moffatt. The former died in 1905; the mother lives in Scotland. The other children of the family are Rev. James Moffatt, Annie, Ella, Winifred, all of Scotland. George received his schooling in the land of his nativity, attending school until seventeen years of age. He attended Glasgow Academy and Glasgow University. When seventeen years of age he took a position as bookkeeper for a firm of East Indian merchants and worked for them two years.

At nineteen years of age George Moffatt came to America and to Lyon county for a visit and, liking the country so well, he stayed with friends in Island Lake township, for whom he worked several years. Later he farmed for himself in Lynd township several years and then moved to the village of Lynd and entered the employ of the New London Milling Company as grain

buyer, serving as such two years. The firm sold to the E. S. Mooers Elevator Company, and our subject has worked for the firm since as manager and grain buyer. Mr. Moffatt is a member of the following lodges: Blue Lodge of Masons, Modern Woodmen and the Knights of the Maccabees. He was clerk of the Modern Woodmen lodge at Lynd six years.

On January 25, 1894, Mary A. Burr became the wife of Mr. Moffatt. To them have been born two children, George M. and Evelyn.

JOHN F. DE KIERE (1888) is manager of the Philhower Implement Company at Marshall. He was born on Faroe Island, Denmark, March 31, 1869, and came to America in 1881. He spent four years at Alpena, Michigan, and three years in the city of Detroit, where he attended school.

Mr. De Kiere came to Lyon county in 1888 and in the vicinity of Minneota engaged in farming until 1890. The next five years were spent in the employ of the E. I. Leland Grain and Implement Company. Mr. De Kiere then returned to Detroit and there enlisted in the United States Infantry and saw service in Arizona. After his term of service expired he re-enlisted in the regular army and in June, 1898, went with his regiment to the Philippine Islands, where he had an extended service in the campaign against the Insurrectos. He was discharged at San Francisco with the rank of sergeant on February 15, 1901.

After his army service Mr. De Kiere returned to Lyon county. For two years he had charge of the Marfield elevator at Burchard and then for three years was in the employ of the Western Elevator Company at Marshall. From that time until March, 1911, Mr. De Kiere lived at Ceylon, Martin county, Minnesota, employed by the Mutual Elevator Company. On the last named date Mr. De Kiere entered the employ of L. H. Philhower as manager of the implement business in Marshall.

At Balaton, on June 5, 1903, Mr. De Kiere was married to Annie M. Peterson, of Burchard. Four children have been born to them, Leona, Irene, Irvin and John. Mr. De Kiere is a member of the Masonic, Knights of Pythias and Modern Woodmen lodges.

Joseph De Kiere, the father of our subject,

was born at Roulers, Belgium, and died in this country. The mother, Amelia (Paulson) De Kiere, was born on Faroe Island, Denmark, and now resides at Minneota. There are four children in the family, Mary, Virginia, Gertrude and John F.

JOHN A. KARLEN (1892), Coon Creek township farmer, was born September 2, 1857, in Goteborg, Sweden. His parents were Andrew and Brigita Manson, both of whom are deceased. John received his schooling in the land of his nativity, where he attended school until fifteen years of age. He then worked at the carpenter's trade with his father, who was a contractor, until twenty-three years of age. In 1881 he came to America and located in Chicago, where he was employed by the Pullman Car Company eleven years.

In 1892 Mr. Karlen came to Lyon county and purchased land in Coon Creek township, which he farmed three years. Then he returned to Chicago, where he again worked for the Pullman Company, this time for eight years. He then moved to Langlade county, Wisconsin, where he purchased land and farmed until July, 1910. He sold out at that time and the following October purchased the land he now owns and operates in Coon Creek township, the southeast quarter of section 12. In addition to grain farming, Mr. Karlen raises considerable stock, including Duroc-Jersey hogs, Shorthorn cattle and Plymouth Rock chickens. He is a member of the Masonic lodge and of the Independent Order of Svithiod of Chicago. Mr. Karlen was a member of the Town Board of Supervisors one year and is a stockholder of the Farmers Mutual Telephone Company.

On October 1, 1888, Elida Danielson became the wife of our subject. She is the daughter of Daniel and Annie (Anderson) Olson, both deceased, and was born March 19, 1863, in Wermland, Sweden. Mr. and Mrs. Karlen are the parents of two children: Arthur, born September 27, 1889, and Cecilia, born March 13, 1892. Both reside at home.

Mr. Karlen has two brothers and four sisters, namely: Otto, of Chicago; Albein, Ida, Annie, Tekla and Alma, all residing near Goteborg, Sweden. Mrs. Karlen has three brothers and two sisters: Edward, of

Sturgeon Lake, Minnesota, Emma, of Wermland, Sweden; Andrew, Olaf and Nettie, of Christiania, Norway.

EDWIN C. STILWELL (1905) is the proprietor of the Tracy Sheet Metal Works. He is a native of Kalamazoo county, Michigan, and was born August 17, 1844. When a young man he moved to Dowagiac, Michigan, where he grew to manhood and learned the tinner's trade. He enlisted from that place in Company C, Twelfth Michigan Infantry, in 1861 and served four years and three months in the service. He participated in the following battles: Shiloh, Corinth, Vicksburg, and many minor engagements.

After the war Mr. Stilwell returned to his home and was engaged in the tinner's trade several years. Later he was engaged in the business in several Ohio towns. He returned to Michigan and conducted a hardware and tin store in Schoolcraft ten years, after which he went to Clark, South Dakota, and engaged in the same business ten years. He then moved to Minneapolis and was engaged in the business there fourteen years.

In 1905 Mr. Stilwell came to Lyon county and located at Tracy, and in October, 1910, he started his present business. He does all kinds of tin and furnace contract work. Our subject is a member of the I. O. O. F. lodge and the Grand Army post.

The parents of our subject are Foster and Mary Ann (Townsend) Stilwell, the former a native of Kentucky and the latter of Pennsylvania. They are the parents of the following children: James T., George H., Edwin C., Amanda E., Lydia A., Ida, Emma, Mertie.

Mr. Stilwell was married in Oxford, Ohio, in 1868 to Mrs. M. E. Olds, a native of that place. To them were born the following children: Newton H., of San Francisco, California; Abbie M. (Mrs. T. P. Hopp), of Bridgeport, Washington; and Maud E. (Mrs. R. E. Crosby), of Minneapolis. Mrs. Stilwell is deceased. Mr. Stilwell was married a second time, to Mamie Noss, in January, 1895, at Minneapolis.

JAMES EGAN (1899), farmer and stock raiser of Rock Lake township, came here from Illinois in February, 1899, and settled

on his farm on the southeast quarter of section 24, land which he had purchased the preceding fall.

James Egan's parents are natives of Ireland. Patrick S. and Johanna (Houlihan) Egan came to America and were early settlers of Illinois. James was born in Manteno, Kankakee county, December 9, 1865. His father is dead and his mother still resides in Manteno. The young boy received the customary country school education of the farmer lad, attending until the age of eighteen years; then he worked at home on the farm until 1895. In the latter year he started out for himself, rented land in the vicinity of his home, and farmed for himself four years. During the fall of his last year in Illinois he bought his Lyon county land and moved the next spring.

Mr. Egan has prospered on his farm. Besides farming he devotes considerable time to the raising of Shorthorn cattle, Poland China hogs and Percheron horses, specializing in the latter. He is the owner of "Pap," a registered Percheron stallion which he raised himself. Mr. Egan is on the board of directors of the Farmers Elevator Company of Balaton. He is a member of the Catholic church of Tracy.

February 13, 1895, James Egan was married at Manteno, Illinois, to Susanna Moat, a native of Kankakee county. She was born November 17, 1868, her parents, William and Mary (Story) Moat, being natives of Ireland and pioneer settlers of Illinois. Both parents are now living in Manteno. Mr. and Mrs. Egan are parents of six children. Their names are Marie Anita, James Harold, Lawrence Merrill, Elizabeth Lucilla, Gladys Helen and William Edward.

HERMAN ANDERSON (1884) is manager of the C. M. Youmans Lumber Company's yards at Marshall and is an old resident of Lyon county. He was born in Sweden January 8, 1855, and that country was his home until 1880. There he was educated and there he worked as a farm laborer, at the carpenter trade and as a coachman. Upon his arrival to the United States Mr. Anderson located in Winnebago county, Illinois, resided there four years, and then came to Lyon county.

The first two years of his residence in

the county Mr. Anderson farmed; then he entered the employ of M. Sullivan, the pioneer lumber dealer of Marshall, and he has been identified with the one yard for the past twenty-five years. The yard was established by Mr. Sullivan in 1879. Under the latter's proprietorship Mr. Anderson had practical charge of the yards and the stock, and since 1905 he has had the management of the entire business. The present owners purchased from Mr. Sullivan in May, 1899. The yard is the oldest and largest in the county.

Mr. Anderson is one of a family of three children living and he is the only one in America. The two children residing in the old country are Victor and Clara. Our subject is a member of the Methodist church and of the A. O. U. W. and M. W. A. lodges.

In Marshall, on the sixth of March, 1889, Mr. Anderson was united in marriage to Sophia Carlson. To them have been born the following named children: Emory, Selma, Ellis and Violet.

BEN F. VAN BREASEN (1904) is the owner of the west half of the northwest quarter of section 10 and the northeast quarter of section 9, Lyons township, which he purchased in company with his brother-in-law, I. Eben, in 1904. He is a native of Germany and was born June 29, 1867, a son of Fred and Himke (Daniels) Van Breasen. Ben received his schooling and grew to manhood in the land of his nativity. He served six months in the standing army and then worked at day labor until twenty-seven years of age.

In 1894 Mr. Van Breasen came to America, locating at George, Lyon county, Iowa, where he worked one year at farm labor and the next three years on the section for the Illinois Central Railroad Company in Hamilton county, Iowa. He then returned to Lyon county and rented land near George, which he operated seven years, after which he came to Lyon county, Minnesota, and purchased the land above described. Mr. Van Breasen raises a great deal of stock and is a stockholder in the Farmers Elevator Company of Lynd. He is a member of the Methodist church.

Our subject was married in Germany on January 27, 1891, to Minnie Van Hoorn,

a daughter of F. and Rixke (Dierks) Van Hoorn. Mrs. Van Breasen was born June 19, 1874. Mr. and Mrs. Van Breasen are the parents of the following named children: Hattie, born August 16, 1893; Tina, born September 4, 1895; Fred, born September 14, 1897; Annie, born May 12, 1900; Freida, born November 18, 1902.

CHARLES L. DE REU (1887), junior member of the firm of Williams & De Reu, attorneys, is a rising young professional man of Marshall. Besides his legal work Mr. De Reu is actively interested in an effort to improve the farming conditions of the county in respect to its stock and industries. There is a large Belgian population in and around Marshall, and Mr. De Reu, owing to his splendid education and natural qualities, is prominent in Belgian circles, its societies, churches, etc. In December, 1911, he was instrumental in the organization of the Belgian Netherlandish Association, of which he is president. He is a member of the Catholic Order of Foresters and is agent for the Belgian newspapers in Marshall. He is a member of city and farmers' clubs.

Charles De Reu's parents, Felix and Mary (Steyaert) De Reu, natives of Belgium, came to the United States in 1882 and settled in Westerheim township. They now reside in town. In July, 1890, their Westerheim farm was visited by a tornado, and everything in the way of buildings and equipment was destroyed. The oldest son, Cyril, was killed. A sister, Bertha, and the mother were so severely injured that their lives were despaired of for a time, and another son, Julius, suffered a broken leg. The family could not bring themselves to resume farming on the place, and they rented a farm of James Williams for three years. During that time misfortune again visited them, three children dying from diphtheria. After three years on the rented farm Felix De Reu bought section 35, Fairview, and the family made that their home until moving to Marshall several years ago. In the family were thirteen children, three of whom only, Charles, Bertha and George, are now living.

Our subject was born on the farm in Westerheim December 28, 1887. He at-

tended school in Marshall, later went to St. Michael's School in New Ulm, and then returned to Marshall and entered St. Joseph's Academy. When he was fifteen his parents took him to Europe, and he attended in turn the Little Seminary in Rouler, Belgium, and the St. Joseph Institute at La Lauviere, French Belgium, learning at these schools to read and write Netherlandish, French and German.

Returning to Marshall, Charles was graduated from the Marshall High School in 1908, and in the fall he entered the State University with twenty-three full high school credits, gained in Europe and the Marshall High School. He was graduated from the Law Department of the State University in 1911 and in April of that year entered into partnership with James Von Williams, a Marshall boy, and under the firm name of Williams & De Reu they have since practised law, having offices on the second floor of the Williams Building on Main Street. Both young men are well educated, young, hustling American citizens, and the firm's success seems assured.

HERMAN A. VAN UDEN (1892) is the proprietor of Riverside Farm, the northeast quarter and the north half of the northwest quarter of section 35, Shelburne township. Mr. Van Uden has lived in Lyon county since he was twenty years of age and all his business operations have been here. He started with nothing, but by hard work he has prospered and accumulated a nice little fortune. He is a true lover of Lyon county and its institutions.

By birth Mr. Van Uden is a Hollander, and April 27, 1872, was the date of his nativity. His father, John Van Uden, came to America in 1892, purchased land three miles west of Ghent, and resided there until his death in June, 1909. The mother, Anna (Hermesen) Van Uden, now lives in Ghent.

The boyhood days of our subject were spent attending school in Holland, and in 1892 he came with the family to America and Lyon county. For two years after his arrival he attended an English school near Ghent and then for several years worked on the farm for his father.

Mr. Van Uden started in business for

himself, renting a farm near Marshall and conducting it three years. He then rented the two-section farm of Mr. Hamilton near Tracy and for a year engaged in stock raising. After that Mr. Van Uden bought a farm near Tracy and operated it five years. In January, 1910, he purchased his present farm and has since lived on it. He has erected new buildings on the place and has a fine little home. Mr. Van Uden makes a specialty of stock, raising graded cattle, Chester White hogs, Percheron and Clyde horses, Barred Plymouth Rock and Red Leghorn chickens and full-blooded Bronze turkeys. He has prospered and is rated among the substantial farmers of the vicinity.

In the county seat of Lyon county, on June 9, 1903, Mr. Van Uden was married to Mary Peters. She was born in Holland February 26, 1878, and came to America two years before her marriage. Mr. and Mrs. Van Uden are the parents of the following children: Mary, born June 4, 1905; Minnie, born February 27, 1907; Herman, born March 12, 1911.

JOHN ZVORAK (1886) is one of Russell's young business men who has built up a very satisfactory and well-paying trade during the four years since he purchased the confectionery and restaurant business of John Bengtson. He has been attending strictly to his business and to the wants of his customers—a sure guarantee of success.

John Zvorak's parents, Frank and Jane (Roberts) Zvorak, were early residents of Lyon county. July 24, 1886, was the date that marked John's entry into the world. His boyhood days were passed on the farm in Lyons township, and he attended the Russell school until fifteen years old. The next seven years were spent on his father's farm; then the young farmer lad decided that he would make a venture into business life. Accordingly he bought the store of Andrew Bengtson and made a success of his business from the start.

October 28, 1909, occurred the ceremony which joined John Zvorak and Jennie Hollgrenn in the holy bonds of matrimony. The bride was a native of Sweden and was born October 1, 1883. This union

has been blessed with one child, Emery J., born May 13, 1911.

Mr. Zvorak has the following brothers and sisters living: Bertha, Sophia, Rachel, Bessie, Mary, Frank, Roy, George, Robert, Arthur and Wesley.

THOMAS MULVANEY (1898) owns the west half of the southwest quarter of section 18, Amiret township, which he farms and where he makes his home. In addition to this eighty acres he operates his brother's eighty in the same township.

John and Julia (Cary) Mulvaney, the parents of our subject, were born near Dublin, Ireland, and came to America in an early day. They settled in Wisconsin, and in Dodge county of that state Thomas was born September 5, 1858. The boy was brought up and educated in his native state; at the age of fifteen years he hired out at farm labor and was employed at that work until 1898.

In the fall of the last named year Mr. Mulvaney came to Lyon county and located on his present farm, which he had purchased a year previous. He is now operating a quarter section and is raising considerable stock for market.

The marriage of Thomas Mulvaney and Mary Bolger took place June 24, 1903, in Wisconsin. Two children have been born to this union: Margaret, born April 9, 1904, and John, born July 10, 1905. Mrs. Mulvaney is a native of Wisconsin. Mr. Mulvaney's father died in Wisconsin and in 1905 his widow came to Lyon county and lived two years with her son, the subject of this sketch, afterward moving to Tracy, where she died February 10, 1909.

Mr. Mulvaney is a member of the Catholic church of Tracy. He served two years as a member of the Amiret Township Board of Supervisors.

CHRIST K. MELBY (1890) is a former member of the Minnesota Legislature and a dealer in hardware, farm implements and vehicles of Minnesota. He has been a resident of Lyon county twenty-two years and has been prominent in the affairs of his community.

Mr. Melby was born in Norway January

11, 1868. He immigrated to America with his parents in 1881 and the first three years of his life in the New World were spent in Goodhue county, Minnesota. He went with the family to Griggs county, North Dakota, and there grew to manhood on his father's homestead, living in a sod shanty during the first three years. The parents now live in Wells county, North Dakota.

After reaching his majority, in the fall of 1889, Mr. Melby left home and started in life for himself. The next year he located in Lyon county, which has ever since been his home. He became the owner of a 240-acre farm on sections 14 and 11, Nordland township, and farmed the place until 1910, adding to his farm by the purchase of a quarter section adjoining. Although he continued to farm until 1910, Mr. Melby moved to Minneota in 1905 and has lived there. He served one year as cashier of the Farmers & Merchants Bank and then engaged in various occupations until he purchased W. A. Crowe's hardware store in May, 1911. He has one of the largest hardware stores in the county.

Mr. Melby has many times been called upon to serve in an official capacity. He was assessor of Nordland township nine years and was chairman of the Board of Supervisors two years. He served as a member of the Board of County Commissioners from 1903 to 1906, inclusive, and in the fall of 1906 was elected to the Lower House of the Minnesota Legislature, was re-elected in 1908, and served until 1911.

The marriage of Mr. Melby to Mary Larson occurred in Lyon county October 3, 1891. She was born on her father's homestead in Nordland township. Her father, Arne Larson, settled in Nordland in the summer of 1872 and resided there until his death in 1886. Mrs. Larson, who is now sixty-nine years of age, resides with her daughter, Mrs. Melby. To Mr. and Mrs. Melby have been born twelve children, of whom the following nine are living: Clarence A., George M., Elmer J., Grace R., Orvin L., Clifford M., June A., Olga M. and Lillian R. The deceased children were named Julius O., Agnes G. and Kermit O.

Our subject is a son of Knute O. and Guri Melby, who reside on their homestead in North Dakota. They have ten children living, all married. They are Guri Ranum, Ole K., Christ K., Knute K., Nellie Wolding, Gilbert K., Mary Satterberg, Caroline Anderson, Martin K. and Oscar J.

HARRY J. TILLEMANS is cashier and a director of the Farmers & Merchants National Bank of Minneota and a director of the First National Bank of Balaton. He is a son of John and Katherine (Henricks) Tillemans, both deceased. They were the parents of the following named children: John, Diuphina, William, Harry J., Marie, Nellie, Katherine, Sophia and Leon.

Harry was born in Holland and when three years of age accompanied his parents to America. The family located in Lyon county, where our subject's early days were spent in a log cabin on the plains. His father purchased a farm in Nordland township, upon which Harry worked and attended a nearby school. Later he attended the Minneota High School and taught school one term. In 1904 he entered the Farmers & Merchants National Bank as bookkeeper at a salary of twenty dollars per month. The next year he was promoted to the position of assistant cashier and in January, 1906, became cashier, a position which he has since held.

Mr. Tillemans holds membership in the Knights of Columbus, Catholic Order of Foresters and Modern Woodmen lodges. He is chief ranger of the Foresters lodge and venerable consul of the Woodmen lodge. He was formerly clerk of the Board of Education and is treasurer of the district at present.

Mr. Tillemans was married in Boone, Iowa, to Lillian Hall, a native of that city. They were married on August 17, 1910. She is a daughter of Mrs. Kate Hall. Mr. and Mrs. Tillemans are the parents of one child, Katherine Hall Tillemans.

L. T. THOMPSON (1893) is a dealer in cigars, tobacco, confectionery, pipes and all kinds of smokers' articles at Minneota.

He was born at Cambridge, Dane county, Wisconsin, December 17, 1869. He lived there a few years and then went to Chicago, where he resided until thirteen years of age. Our subject then moved back to Dane county and attended the public schools and Albion Academy. At twenty he returned to Chicago and attended the Metropolitan Business College. After finishing the latter institution he was bookkeeper two years for Murray & Company.

In 1893 Mr. Thompson came to Lyon county and located on his uncle's farm, known as the T. G. Thompson Ranch. This farm embraces 480 acres of land, and our subject operated the place twelve years. He spent one year traveling, after which he purchased the James McGinn cigar factory in Minneota. He had pool tables installed and moved the cigar factory upstairs. He sold the cigar factory in May, 1911, to McGinn & Moore. Since that time our subject has conducted the pool hall and handles cigars, tobacco, confectionery and soft drinks. Mr. Thompson was assessor of Minneota two terms.

Mr. Thompson was married in Minneapolis March 30, 1904, to Esther E. Wallander, a native of Sweden. She was, at the time of her marriage, a resident of Swanville, Minnesota. Mr. and Mrs. Thompson are the parents of two children, Torger and Esther.

The parents of our subject are Knute and Belle (Anderson) Thompson, the former a native of Wisconsin and the latter of Norway. The father died in 1905 and the mother in 1871. The father was married a second time. There was only one child by the first marriage, Lewis, of this sketch.

AUGUST PRINCEN (1883) is the proprietor of a jewelry store in Minneota, having bought the jewelry stock of C. J. Wimer, druggist, in 1902. Mr. Princen is a first-class hand engraver and decorator and makes a specialty of furnishing cut flowers for funerals, weddings, etc.

Our subject's parents, Hubert and Philomena (Vigen) Princen, came to Lyon county from Holland in 1883 and settled on a farm one mile north of Ghent, where they lived until moving to Ghent in 1901. After

a four years' residence in Ghent, and later a residence of two years in Minneota, they returned to Holland, which has since been their home.

August Princen was born in Limberg, Holland, February 6, 1881, and came to the United States and lived with his parents until they moved to Ghent in 1901. He then learned the jewelry business under Charles Johnson at Marshall and D. D. Smith at Pipestone, working as an apprentice. Prior to entering business for himself at Minneota Mr. Princen spent four months traveling, visiting Chicago and other points of interest.

Mr. Princen owns his store building and carries a complete stock of jewelry, silverware and novelties. He is a member of the Catholic church and of the Knights of Columbus lodge. Five winters ago Mr. Princen spent several months along the Gulf Coast, and in the summer of 1908 he was in Chicago and Indianapolis.

JOHN D. GRIFFITH (1891), a prosperous farmer of Custer township, is a native of Wales and came to this country at the age of nineteen years, locating near Utica, New York, where he worked on a farm. Blue Earth county, Minnesota, was Mr. Griffith's next home, and there he lived until 1891, renting land and farming.

It was in 1891 that our subject moved from Blue Earth to Lyon county and bought his present land, the northeast quarter of section 25, Custer. Mr. Griffith has greatly improved his farm and has gone into the stock raising business quite extensively. He is a shareholder of the Garvin Creamery Company, the Garvin Independent Elevator Company and the Current Lake Telephone Company. The past ten years he has served as a director of school district No. 72.

December 6, 1893, occurred the marriage of John Griffith and Maggie Williams, in Custer township. There are five children, as follows: Mary, born October 12, 1894; Hugh, born August 18, 1896; Milton, born July 6, 1898; Luther, born August 4, 1900; and Rachael, born July 23, 1907. Mrs. Griffith was born in Blue Earth county, Minnesota, December 25, 1868.

The subject of our sketch was born in



CHRIST K. MELBY  
Minneota Business Man and Former Mem-  
ber of the Legislature.



HARRY J. TILLEMANS  
Cashier of the Farmers & Merchants Na-  
tional Bank of Minneota.



L. T. THOMPSON  
Proprietor of a Billiard Hall and Cigar  
Store at Minneota.



AUGUST PRINCEN  
Who Conducts a Minneota Jewelry Store.



Wales December 17, 1865. His parents, Thomas Griffith and Hannah (Jones) Griffith, are both dead. Thomas Griffith was a farmer in Wales, and he and his wife were the parents of eight children, four of whom are living and only one of whom, the subject of our sketch, is a resident of America.

Mr. Griffith is a member of the Welsh Methodist church of Custer township and is affiliated with the Modern Woodmen lodge of Garvin.

WILLIAM E. MAXSON (1877), of Marshall, is one of the early day settlers of Lyon county, having first come to the county when eight years of age. He was born in Winnebago City, Faribault county, Minnesota, August 11, 1869, and in 1877 came with his parents to Lyon county.

The family home was on section 20, Grandview township, where they became the owners of 480 acres of land. On that farm William E. Maxson lived until seventeen years of age. Then he began working out and finished his education with a course in the St. Paul Business College. He then located in Faribault county, bought a farm, and during the next five years conducted the place. His next place of residence was Winnebago City, where for five years he operated a pool hall and bowling alley.

Mr. Maxson sold out at Winnebago City in 1904 and since that time has been a resident of Marshall, engaged in a number of different enterprises. He and his brother Ed started the famous "Silver Spring" water well and established a factory on the site of the present Porter factory. Later they bought the Estey pop factory and merged it with theirs, conducting the business until the partnership was dissolved six months later. The brothers also conducted a dray line which our subject's father and brother had operated previously.

After retiring from business Mr. Maxson was employed in the Curtis pool hall one year and then worked for La Veau two years in the same business. Later he was in the same business at Granite Falls a few months. Mr. Maxson was on the Marshall police force one year. He is a

member of the fire department and of the M. W. A. lodge.

The marriage of Mr. Maxson to Carrie E. Rector occurred at Marshall September 20, 1894. Mrs. Maxson is a native of New York State. They have one child, Marjorie.

The father of our subject was W. T. Maxson, who was born in New York and died in Marshall; the mother of our subject is Adelia S. (Woodruff) Maxson, who was born in Vermont and now resides in Marshall. There are four children in the Maxson family, as follows: Mary (Mrs. R. F. Laythe), of Hanley, Canada; Ed, of Marshall; William E., of this biography; and Maud A., the wife of W. G. Welson, clerk of the district court of Redwood county and a resident of Redwood Falls.

WILLIAM MOAT (1899) is a Rock Lake township farmer and owns 120 acres on the northwest quarter of section 27, where he does general farming and raises Hereford cattle, Poland China swine and Percheron horses. Mr. Moat is a stockholder in the Farmers Elevator Company of Balaton.

William Moat, a son of William and Mary (Story) Moat, was born in Kankakee county, Illinois, October 27, 1864. The parents were pioneer residents of Illinois and both are now living. William attended the graded schools in his native state until eighteen years of age and then worked on the farm for his father until he had reached the age of twenty-three, when he rented his father's place and farmed for himself until 1899. The year previous he had purchased the land upon which he now resides, and in 1899 our subject and his family came to Lyon county.

The wedding of Mr. Moat and Mary McMahon, a native of Illinois, occurred at St. George, Illinois, January 17, 1894. Mrs. Moat was born July 30, 1870, and her parents, Patrick and Julia (Cantillon) McMahon, early pioneers in Illinois, are both deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Moat are parents of the following children: Gilbert, born December 3, 1894; Leonard, born February 18, 1896; Samuel, born July 14, 1897; Clifford, born April 8, 1899; Elmer,

born November 18, 1900; Gordon, born November 8, 1902; William, born July 18, 1904; Joseph (deceased), born August 3, 1905; Bernard, born December 21, 1906; Harvey, born December 12, 1907; and Walter, born September 21, 1910.

Mr. Moat and family are members of the Catholic church and he is affiliated with the Modern Woodmen lodge of Balaton.

DR. THEODORE THORDARSON (1897) is a physician and surgeon of Minneota and is president of the Board of Health of that village. He is a member of the Lyon and Lincoln County Medical Society, the Minnesota State Medical Association, and the American Medical Association.

Dr. Thordarson was born in Iceland in January, 1866, and secured a seminary education. When twenty-two years of age he came to the United States, located in Chicago, and for several years worked as an electrician. In 1891-92 he was a student in the Electrical Department of Cornell University, and a year later he took up the study of medicine in Chicago, graduating from the College of Physicians and Surgeons in 1897. In the latter year he moved to Minneota and has practised there continuously since. He is a member of the Masonic lodge.

At Minneota, on July 12, 1905, occurred the marriage of Dr. Thordarson to Sarah Benson, a native of Canada. They have two children, William and Mary.

LEON M. TAYLOR (1882), proprietor of a Marshall jewelry store, is a native son of Lyon county, having been born on his father's homestead on the northwest quarter of section 22, Sodus township, on April 8, 1882. Until he was eighteen years of age he lived on the farm and attended the district schools and public schools of Marshall.

In March, 1902, Mr. Taylor entered upon the career which he has since followed. At that time he entered the jewelry store of C. H. Johnson and worked at the jeweler's trade under that gentleman for about three years. The next two years were spent working at the trade in different places. Returning to Marshall, in January, 1907, he bought

a half interest in the store of the gentleman under whom he had learned his trade, and two years later Mr. Taylor became the sole owner of the store. He conducts a repair shop in connection and has one of the up-to-date jewelry stores of Southwestern Minnesota. His business is housed in the building formerly occupied by the Bank of Marshall. Mrs. Taylor, who is a graduate optometrist, has charge of the optical department which is conducted in connection with the store.

The parents of our subject are John C. and Mary A. (Bornes) Taylor, who reside on the farm in Sodus township. The father, a miller by trade, was born near Waukesha, Wisconsin, and after his marriage moved to River Falls, of the same state. The family came to Lyon county in 1880 and the home has ever since been in Sodus township. There are four sons in the family, as follows: Charley B., of Sodus township; Leon M., of Marshall; Francis G., of Sodus township; and Verner L., of Amiret township.

Leon Taylor was married at Garvin August 19, 1908, to Mildred M. Coyle, who was born in Lake Sarah township, Murray county, December 11, 1882. Mr. Taylor holds membership in the Masonic, Degree of Honor and M. W. A. lodges.

WILLIAM TOLZMAN (1906) purchased his 155-acre farm on section 36, Lucas township, in February, 1906, and has been a resident there since.

His parents, Carl and Augusta (Sperber) Tolzman, who now live at Redwood Falls, are natives of Germany and came to America in an early day and settled in Wisconsin, where they made their home two years. They then came to Minnesota and located first at St. Paul and later in Le Sueur county, where the family resided seven years. Moving then to Renville county the Tolzmans made their home on a farm in that county thirty-two years, and in 1904 the father and mother moved to Redwood Falls, where they are living a retired life.

William was born in Le Sueur county February 11, 1869. The family moved to Renville county when the lad was young and his education was obtained in the latter county. In his young boyhood days William herded cattle for his father and

neighbors two years and for three years was employed by Dr. Sherige, one of the county's physicians. During that time William accompanied the doctor on trips to Kandiyohi, Swift and Big Stone counties and became well acquainted with the country. Later he worked for his father until thirty years of age, and during that time traveled quite widely throughout the United States.

When our subject was thirty years old he purchased land in Wilkinson county, Minnesota, where he lived but a short time before returning to Renville county and again working for his father. He purchased land in Yellow Medicine county, which he farmed six years, and in February, 1906, sold out and bought his present farm in Lucas township. He is farming with success and is also successful in the raising of Durham cattle and German coach horses.

Mr. Tolzman is fraternally associated with the Masonic, Modern Woodmen and Eastern Star lodges. He is junior warden of the former lodge in Cottonwood. Mr. Tolzman has served the past five years as constable of the township.

JOHN BLOMQUIST (1895) for the last fourteen years has conducted his farm, the northeast quarter of section 34, Rock Lake. Since coming to the county seventeen years ago with no property and practically no money, Mr. Blomquist has prospered until today he owns a fine farm and one of the nice homes in Rock Lake township. Mr. Blomquist raises Shorthorn cattle and Poland China swine in addition to his general farming.

Mr. Blomquist is a son of Christopher Anderson and Hannah (Jepson), natives of Sweden and both now deceased. John was born in Holmby, Sweden, September 4, 1856, and was reared in the old country, where he attended school until fifteen years of age. He then learned the brick and stone mason's trade and followed the pursuit eleven years. In the spring of 1882 Mr. Blomquist came to America and took a homestead in Spink county, South Dakota, where he engaged in farming until 1895.

In the fall of 1895 our subject came to Lyon county and rented the O. O. Loff farm

in Rock Lake for the next three years. During the second year of his residence he bought his present farm and a year later moved to the place with his family. For the past four years Mr. Blomquist has been on the township board of Rock Lake. He has also become one of the stockholders in the Current Lake Farmers Telephone Company of Balaton. For many years he has been a member of the Swedish Lutheran church and is a deacon in the Balaton church.

John Blomquist married Elna Anderson at Harlosa, Sweden, September 14, 1878. Mrs. Blomquist was born June 2, 1851. Their children are Carl, Martin and Eda, all residing at home, and Garda (Mrs. Albert Shutt), of Rock Lake township.

CARL NORDLI (1904) is a member of the firm of Nordli Brothers, blacksmiths, of Cottonwood, who have one of the finely equipped shops of Lyon county. He is a native of Norway and was born June 28, 1878. He learned his trade in the old country and for several years was employed in a shop in Christiania.

Mr. Nordli came to America in the spring of 1904 and located in northern Lyon county. For a while he worked on a farm in the vicinity of Cottonwood and then began work in Casper Johnson's shop in that village. Two years later he went to Butte, Montana, but returned to Cottonwood at the end of two years. He and his brother Hans then bought the Johnson shop and they still conduct it.

While still a resident of Norway, on December 8, 1901, Mr. Nordli was married to Theoline Meland. To them have been born the following named three children: Colbjorn, Amanda and Georgia. The family are members of the Norwegian Lutheran church.

Hans Nordli was also born in Norway, on January 8, 1885. He learned his trade there and came to America in the fall of 1904. He is unmarried and makes his home with his brother. The parents of the Nordli brothers are Christian and Karen Arneson, who reside in Norway. There are eight living children in the family.

ANDREW NELSON (1890) is the proprietor of Maplegrove Farm of Clifton town-

ship and has lived in that township since he was eight years of age. He was born in Sweden August 17, 1880. His father, Peter Nelson, lives in Dudley; his mother, Ida (Mortenson) Nelson, died in 1910.

In 1884 the family came to America and for six years lived in Michigan. They came to Lyon county in 1890 and bought the east half of the northeast quarter of section 17, Clifton township. On that farm Andrew grew up and in the nearby district school he was educated. He assisted his father with the farm work until he reached his majority. Then, his father having given him the east half of the southeast quarter of section 8, Clifton, he started farming for himself. In 1908 he bought the home place from his father and an eighty-acre tract on section 17. He has a fine home and a well-improved farm. He raises stock and makes a specialty of the single-comb White Leghorn chickens.

Mr. Nelson was married in Marshall June 28, 1907, to Ida Clay, who is also a native of Sweden. She is a daughter of Andrew and Mary (Clay) Johnson. Mr. and Mrs. Nelson have two children, Florence M. and Iva A.

GEORGE BENSON (1894) is manager of the Western elevator and a dealer in implements at Minneota. He is a native of Iceland and was born July 10, 1872, the son of Bjorn (Hallason) and Sigurbjorg (Sigurdardottir) Benson. The father died in 1874; the mother resides in Minneota. There are five children: Hall, of Lyon county; George, of this sketch; Frank Peterson, of North Dakota; J. S. Peterson, a mining engineer of Guayaquil, Ecuador, South America; S. H. Peterson, a teacher of Corvallis, Oregon.

George came to America when six years of age and settled in Lincoln county, where his step-father homesteaded land. He resided there sixteen years and then moved to Minneota, where he has since lived. The first business our subject engaged in was draying. He then spent four years in the real estate business with the Globe Land and Loan Company. After that he clerked in the big store of Anderson & Company.

Some time later our subject engaged in managing the grain elevator and machinery business of the Mutual Elevator Company for one year. He then purchased the ma-

chinery end of the business and in 1910 sold a half interest to J. H. Jonathan, the firm name now being Benson & Jonathan. They handle a full line of farm machinery and wagons. In 1910 Mr. Benson entered the employ of the Western Elevator Company as buyer at Minneota and has held that position since. The Western elevator was built about twenty years ago by the Western Elevator Company. The main office of the company is at Winona.

Mr. Benson is a member of the Modern Woodmen lodge. He held the office of constable six years and was on the police force one year. He has been a member of the Village Council the past three years.

Mr. Benson was married in Minneota September 30, 1906, to Ella Frost, a native of Minneota. They are the parents of two children, Donald George and Bjorn Frost.

MRS. NELLIE SMEDSRUD (1900) is the widow of the late Hans Smedsrud, of Coon Creek township. Hans Smedsrud was born in Norway in 1862 and when twenty years of age came to America and was engaged in farming all his life. He was the owner of 240 acres on section 7, Coon Creek township, and the northwest quarter of section 30, Lyons township. Mr. and Mrs. Smedsrud were the parents of five children, as follows: Henry, born February 8, 1891, who has had charge of the home place since the father's death; Emelia, born October 15, 1892; Melvin, born December 11, 1894; Joseph, born February 27, 1901; Hilda, born March 6, 1903. All reside at home.

Mrs. Smedsrud's maiden name was Nellie Paulson and she is a daughter of Peter and Maren Paulson, of Christiania, Norway, both of whom are deceased. Nellie received her schooling in Norway and in Clayton county, Iowa. She then worked out until twenty-four years of age, and in 1890 she was married to Hans Smedsrud. After their marriage they lived in Winnebago county, Iowa, ten years, where they operated a farm which Mr. Smedsrud owned. In 1900 they moved to Lyon county and purchased 267 acres of land in Monroe township. They conducted that farm two years, when they sold out and purchased the present farm in Coon Creek township. Mr. Smedsrud died August 23, 1910, of cancer, after an illness extending

over two years. With his death, Lyon county lost one of its best citizens.

Since Mr. Smedsrud's death, their oldest son, Henry, has taken charge of the farm. In addition to general farming they raise some stock, including Chester White hogs, Polled Angus and Shorthorn cattle and Plymouth Rock and White Leghorn chickens. Mrs. Smedsrud is a member of the Norwegian Lutheran church. She is a stockholder of the Farmers Elevator Company of Russell and the Farmers Mutual Telephone Company. Mrs. Smedsrud has two sisters, Anna (Mrs. Parry Juel), of Canton, South Dakota, and Martha (Mrs. Louis Saug), of Mitchell county, Iowa.

MARGARET E. CLENDENNING (1883) is the proprietor of a grocery and crockery store in Marshall and has been a resident of Lyon county since girlhood. She is the daughter of Isaac and Eleanor (Forbes) Clendenning, natives of Canada. They came to Lyon county in 1883 and moved to Marshall several years later. Mr. Clendenning was one of the first rural mail carriers out of Marshall. He and his wife still reside in Marshall. They have six children living.

Miss Clendenning was born in Ontario, Canada, and came to Lyon county with her parents in 1883. She was educated in the public schools of Marshall, in the Mankato Commercial College, and in the Albert Lea Presbyterian College for girls. After school days she engaged in teaching several years and then took up stenography. For eight years she was stenographer and bookkeeper for D. D. Forbes & Company and later served in the same capacity for Odell & McNiven and the Marshall State Bank. She then went to St. Paul to take the position of bookkeeper for the St. Paul Ditcher & Carrier Company.

In the fall of 1910 Miss Clendenning returned to Marshall and purchased the G. J. Hardy & Company grocery store, which is located in the Marshall State Bank Building. She deals exclusively in groceries and crockery. In the conduct of the store she has the help of her brothers, Forbes, Walter, Joe and Harry.

FRANK BUYSSE (1885) is the owner of 800 acres of fine farm land in Westerheim

and Fairview townships and is one of the prosperous farmers of the county. His home farm is in Westerheim and he rents out 240 acres in that township.

Our subject was born in Belgium June 1, 1866, and is a son of Bruno and Sophia (Cattoir) Buysse. They died in the old country, and Frank is one of four children, the others being Bruno, of Ventura county, California; Emma (Mrs. Emil Christian), of Belgium; and Mary (Mrs. Bruno De Clerk), of Belgium. One son, Peter, died in April, 1907.

Frank was educated in the schools of his native land and helped his father until 1885. Then the boy of nineteen years came to this country, located in Minneota, and worked three years at farm labor. In 1888 he bought a homestead right from John Wissiers to land on section 22, Westerheim township, and after farming it five years sold out and purchased a half of section 15, Westerheim. He lived on that seven years and then bought his present place. He has improved the place wonderfully and has prospered.

In Ghent our subject was married to Leonora Wambeke, the date of the wedding being February 21, 1889. His wife was born in Belgium and came to America in 1888. Her parents were Ferdinand Wambeke and Rosilie (De Fouw) Wambeke, both deceased. The family settled in Fairview township upon their arrival in this country and later moved to Westerheim. Mrs. Buysse is one of eight living children, the others being Charlie, Henry, Peter, John, Matilda, Marie and Christina.

Eight children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Frank Buysse. The oldest child, Camil, died when he was four years old. The living children are Leo, John, Peter, Henry, Lizzie, Emma and Mary.

Mr. Buysse is a director of school district No. 54. He is a member of the Catholic church.

RUSSELL G. DONALDSON (1890) is the junior member of the firm of Donaldson & Son, of Tracy, dealers in wood, coal, machinery, hay and grain. He is a native of Mower county, Minnesota, and was born May 15, 1870, a son of George W. and Mary E. (Hoag) Donaldson, natives of New York State.

The father was born in 1847 and served in the Civil War. He was in Company H, Sixty-six Ohio regiment, and later was in the Fifteenth Ohio and took part in Sherman's march to the sea. After the war he came to Minnesota and located in Mower county, where he lived until 1890, with the exception of a few years spent in Lyon county, when he came here and homesteaded land. He was driven out by the grasshoppers, remained away a year and a half, came again for a short period and in 1890 he took up his permanent residence on the land he had homesteaded.

Russell Donaldson broke up the place for his father and remained on the farm until 1901, when he moved to Tracy and with his father opened a coal and wood yard under the firm name of Donaldson & Son. Our subject owns a farm adjoining his father's old homestead in Amiret township and a home in Tracy.

In the family of Mr. and Mrs. George W. Donaldson are the following children: Russell G., of this sketch; Mamie, deceased; Mabel (Mrs. S. Selix), of Woodlake, Minnesota, who was one of the first teachers of the consolidated schools in the county, having taught four years in Lynd; Caroline (Mrs. Bert Blakesley), of Marshall; Mazie (Mrs. F. Whitmore), of Spokane, Washington; Dasie (Mrs. Ernest Hunter), of Ames, Iowa; Rev. Charles Donaldson, of Fort Benton, Montana; and Alice (Mrs. George Adams), of Spokane, Washington.

The subject of this review spent the first eighteen years of his life at his home in Mower county and then came to Lyon county to take charge of his father's homestead in Amiret township, and he has been a resident of the county since that time. He is a member of the A. O. U. W. lodge and was treasurer of school district No. 32 for some time.

In Redwood county, Minnesota, on September 7, 1897, Jessie Moses became the wife of our subject. She is a native of Tracy and was the first girl born in that city. Her father, W. W. Moses, was one of the early settlers of Redwood county, just over the line from Lyon county, and one of the large landholders in that county. To Mr. and Mrs. Donaldson have been born the following named seven children: Dale, Doris, Ruby, Lawrence, Myrl, Rosemond and Callie.

JOSEPH E. REGNIER (1883) is the proprietor of a fine half section of land in Grandview township and has lived in the county since he was two years of age.

January 30, 1881, was the date of Joseph E. Regnier's birth in Kankakee county, Illinois. Two years later he accompanied his parents, Joseph I. and Zepharine (Mongeau) Regnier, to Lyon county and the father bought the northeast quarter of section 20, Grandview township. The boy was educated in the country school, brought up on the farm, and has been living on the old home place since the rest of the family moved to Marshall. In addition to the original quarter section, Mr. Regnier farms the northwest quarter of section 21.

The marriage of Joseph E. Regnier and Margaret Lynch took place August 30, 1905. To this union have been born five children: Philip, Margaret, Joseph, Maurice and Marie. Mrs. Regnier is a native of New York City.

Mr. Regnier was on the school board of district No. 12 three years. He is associated with the Modern Woodmen lodge and is a member of the Catholic church.

Joseph I. Regnier, the father of our subject, was born in Kankakee county, Illinois. He was brought up there, married there, and lived in the house of his birth when his own son, Joseph E., was born. His wife was a native of Canada. She died in 1901 and Mr. Regnier now lives in Marshall. They were the parents of twelve children, two of whom, Lucy and Isaac, are dead. The other children are George, Marie, Thomas, Philip, Florence, Agnes, Alex, Blanche, Atwood and Leo.

JOHN J. STURGEON (1878), stock buyer and shipper of Marshall, has resided in that city since he was thirteen years of age, a continuous residence of thirty-four years. He has been engaged in business many years and has been a prominent "booster" for Marshall. He is also a thirty-second degree base ball fan and was manager of the successful Marshall team of 1911.

John Sturgeon was born at Lampton, Ontario, Canada, twenty-two miles west of the city of Montreal, on June 8, 1865. At the age of six years he accompanied his parents to Austin, Minnesota, resided there seven or eight years, and then in August, 1878, came

with his parents to Marshall, where he has ever since resided. He learned the butcher trade early in life, working three years in the shop of Johnson & Woodruff. Then he opened a shop of his own in the building now occupied by the Serlet saloon and was engaged in the business until January 1, 1900, occupying later the building in which is now the Shardlow music store and later still the John Schutz building.

In June, 1900, Mr. Sturgeon left Marshall with two loads of stock for Cape Nome, Alaska, and was absent until September 1, of the same year. Upon his return he engaged in the stock business and has since been buying and shipping cattle, sheep and hogs. For the past four years he has also engaged in the breeding of thoroughbred horses. The head of his stud is Allie Dale, with a trotting record of 2:15  $\frac{1}{4}$ . He built the hitch barn and the four residences adjoining and still owns the barn and one of the residences. In the summer of 1911 he erected for his home one of the prettiest little residences in the city. It is of the California bungalow style, has six rooms, and is modern in every particular. He also owns a 120-acre farm southeast of Tracy.

Mr. Sturgeon was married in Marshall January 30, 1889, to Lucile Phillips, a native of Michigan. They have one child, Lila R.

Our subject is of Canadian-French origin. His parents, John and Zoie (Morin) Sturgeon, were natives of Canada, located at Austin, Minnesota, in 1871, at Marshall in 1878, and at DeSmet, Kingsbury county, South Dakota, in 1882. In that city the father died in 1903, and there the mother still has her home. There were sixteen children in the family, of whom the following named nine are living: Nellie, Henry, John J., Millie, Emma, George, Hattie, Wilford and Hattie.

FREDERICK W. VANSTROM (1910), cashier of the Lynd State Bank, is a product of Minnesota. He was born in Lac qui Parle county March 19, 1879, a son of Jacob Vanstrom, a native of Sweden who came to the United States when thirty-five years of age and settled in Carver county, Minnesota. Later he went to Lac qui Parle county, where he homesteaded land. The elder Mr. Vanstrom was married in Carver county to

Malena Johnson. They are the parents of eight children, as follows: Josephine M., Julius E., Frederick W., George I., Edna M., Ella L., Eunice M. and Florence L. The parents still reside on the old home place in Lac qui Parle county.

The subject of this sketch received his early education in the public and high schools, later attending the University of Minnesota, from which he was graduated in 1905. He then accepted the position of superintendent of the Welcome High School, which he held five years. In the spring of 1910 he assisted in the organization of the Lynd State Bank, of which he is cashier and manager. Mr. Vanstrom is a member of the M. W. A. lodge.

Mr. Vanstrom was married at Truman, Minnesota, June 23, 1908, to A. Mabel Henton, a native of Martin county and a daughter of W. B. and Mary Henton. Mr. and Mrs. Vanstrom are the parents of two children: Malena Josephine and Mary Gladys.

N. W. HANSON (1897), farmer of Rock Lake township, was born May 4, 1870, and is a son of Hans and Tillie (Nelson) Johnson, the former of whom is deceased and the latter being now a resident of Sweden. Our subject was born and brought up in Sweden and attended the common schools until fourteen years of age. He then worked at farm labor until the age of twenty-three years.

In the fall of 1894 N. W. Hanson came to America and located at Dundee, Minnesota, where he was engaged as a section hand on the railroad for some months, and later as a farm laborer. It was in December, 1897, that he came to Lyon county, and he rented and farmed for himself in Rock Lake and Custer townships for seven years. With the idea of trying town life, Mr. Hanson went to Illinois and after investigating conditions there accepted employment in a hardware store in Moline, where he worked several months. He had become very well satisfied with Lyon county, however, and he resigned his position, returned to Lyon county, and again engaged in farm labor for six months. Later he returned to Moline and accepted his old position for one year.

Leaving Moline in the spring of 1907, Mr. Hanson spent the summer months in his

old home in Sweden. Returning to Lyon county, he has since conducted the farm which he rents, the northwest quarter of section 1, Rock Lake. He has been successful and his farm is one of the township's fine farms.

Our subject was married July 2, 1910, at Marshall to Tillie Johnson. She is a native of Sweden and was born May 17, 1880. To this union has been born one child, Harry William. Mrs. Hanson's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Swan Johnson, former residents of Hinckley, Minnesota, are both deceased.

ALEXANDER KOLHEI (1904) is assistant cashier of the State Bank of Cottonwood. He is also interested with his father in the Eickschen-Kolhei Company, the largest general merchandise store in Cottonwood, and with his father has considerable real estate holdings in the vicinity of Haworden, Saskatchewan, Canada.

Alexander was born in Yellow Medicine county, in Roumania township, on the father's homestead, January 2, 1882, and lived on the home farm until coming to Cottonwood in 1904. That year the young man was given the position of assistant cashier of the state bank and has filled it ever since, being now a stockholder. Our subject is unmarried and resides with his parents in Cottonwood. Alexander has six brothers and sisters living, their names being Hagbort L., Caroline (Mrs. Olai Aamodt), of Lyon county; Carl J., of Cottonwood; Hilda, Ida and Alfred.

Alexander Kolhei is the son of Ingebret L. Kolhei and Korina (Haraldson) Kolhei, both natives of Norway. They came to the United States and first settled in Wisconsin, moving later to Iowa, and in 1867 going to Yellow Medicine county, Minnesota, among the first settlers. The elder Kolhei took a homestead in Roumania township. There were then but three other settlers between Redwood Falls and Yellow Medicine, and they were Ingebrit Johnson, Gerhart Gooman, and an Englishman. The first home on the farm was a log hut, for several years all the trading had to be done at New Ulm, and the nearest railroad station was at Janesville, in Waseca county. In 1869 the Great Northern railroad was built to

Willmar and the elder Kolhei hauled grain several times to Willmar.

In 1905 Ingebret Kolhei sold his Yellow Medicine farm to his son H. L. Kolhei, now on the place, and moved to Cottonwood. In 1897 he had helped organize the Cottonwood State Bank, of which he is now vice president. Since moving to Cottonwood he has been active in other business enterprises. He is interested with his son, Alexander, in the Eickschen-Kolhei Mercantile Company, is treasurer and one of the founders of the Norwegian Mutual Fire Insurance Company, which was organized about thirty years ago and which is one of the largest mutual companies in this part of the state, doing business in Lincoln, Lyon, Yellow Medicine and Redwood counties. The amount of insurance in force in 1911 was over \$5,000,000.

ERNEST A. MICHEL (1906) is the junior member of the law firm of Davis & Michel, of Marshall. He was born at Appleton, Minnesota, October 15, 1887, and spent his boyhood days in that town. He was graduated from the Appleton High School and then took a year's course in a business college.

In 1906 Mr. Michel located in Marshall. He entered the employ of Thomas E. Davis as a stenographer and at the same time read law. He was admitted to the bar February 8, 1909, and in July, 1910, entered into partnership with his employer. Mr. Michel is a member of the Elks and Modern Woodmen lodges.

Ernest Michel is the son of the late Ernest Michel and Caroline (Schmidt) Michel. They came from Germany when children, were married, and located in Michigan. They became residents of Willmar, Minnesota, in the early days and for a time conducted a hotel in that city. Then they moved to Appleton, where Mr. Michel died and where Mrs. Michel now resides. Ernest is the youngest in a family of fourteen children, of whom ten are living.

ROBERT ALTON STRUTHERS (1881) is a son of one of the early settlers of the county, and he was born in and has always been a resident of Amiret township. James and Jane (Mitchell) Struthers, parents of

Robert Struthers, were pioneers and are still living in the township.

Robert Alton was born February 9, 1881, on the home farm near Amiret and was brought up amid the environments of farm life. He attended the country school and finished his education at the age of nineteen years. The next seven years of his life were spent on the farm helping his father, and he and his father then purchased section 9, Amiret township, and one year later the land was divided, Robert taking as his interest the south half, which he has since owned and operated. The 320 acres make a splendid farm, upon which Mr. Struthers has put many modern improvements.

The subject of this sketch is a stockholder of the Amiret State Bank. He is always awake to the interests of his community and was one of the organizers of the Marshall-Amiret Telephone Company, of which he is now secretary. The company was organized in the winter of 1909 by nine of the farmers of the township. The other officers are James Mitchell, president; Joseph Shake, vice president; and Edmond Van Moer, treasurer.

The marriage of Robert Struthers to Beatrice Coyle took place November 27, 1907, at Marshall. To this union one child, Lucile Beatrice, was born, September 20, 1908. Mrs. Struthers' parents, Joshua and Elizabeth Coyle, were pioneer residents of Sodus township, and she was born in that precinct May 5, 1885. Her father is dead; her mother still resides in the township.

WALLACE A. GOODRICH (1876) is manager of the poultry and fur business of Max Becker, of Marshall. He was born at Lake City, Wabasha county, Minnesota, December 14, 1863, and is the son of William R. and Margaret Goodrich. The former is a native of Connecticut and the latter of New York State, and they were the parents of the following children: Charles W., who resides on the old homestead in Grandview township; Franklin H. and Louis W., who are deceased; and Wallace A., of this sketch. The mother died in 1893, and the father resides at St. Charles, Louisiana. The latter enlisted in Wisconsin, in Company I, First Cavalry, and served a little over a year in the Civil War.

Our subject accompanied his parents to Lyon county in 1876. The father homesteaded the southeast quarter of section 12, Grandview township, and there Wallace resided until 1888. He moved to Marshall that year and has made his home there since, with the exception of two winters spent in Nebraska and one year in California. In the early nineties Mr. Goodrich started a feedmill in Marshall in the building on Main Street now occupied by Finnell & Son. He conducted the mill seven years, after which he was employed by the McCormick Harvester Company as an expert and later by the International people, which occupied his time until February, 1908. He then entered the employ of Max Becker, in the produce and fur business, as manager. That firm handles the majority of the poultry business of Marshall, about fifteen cars a year besides the local shipments, and about \$50,000 worth of furs was handled by the firm in 1911. Mr. Goodrich is a member of the Blue Lodge and Chapter of the Masonic order and the Modern Woodmen lodge. He holds the office of noble grand in the Odd Fellows lodge.

Our subject was married in Marshall February 7, 1910, to Lena Rask, of Russell.

PETER PETERSON (1895) is the owner of the northwest quarter of section 10, Shelburne township. He was born in Torenby, Denmark, December 14, 1845. His parents were Peter and Karen Christenson, both of whom are deceased.

Our subject attended school in the land of his nativity until fourteen years of age and thereafter worked at farm labor. In 1881 Mr. Peterson located at Racine, Wisconsin, and for the next nine years was employed by the Mitchell Lewis Wagon Company. During the next five years he farmed rented land at Berryville, five miles south of Racine. He came to Lyon county in 1895 and purchased the farm he now operates in Shelburne township.

On June 16, 1871, Mr. Peterson was married to Christine Nelson, a daughter of Nels and Annie Nelson, of Denmark. Mrs. Peterson was born July 17, 1843. The following four children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Peterson: Hans Christian, born June 24, 1872; Anton, born April 22, 1882; Anna

Magdalena, born December 9, 1884; Nels Lawrence, born October 26, 1887.

Mrs. Peterson has one brother, James Nelson, of Racine, Wisconsin.

ALFRED AMUNDSON (1888), who farms the southeast quarter of section 29, Nordland township, has spent the twenty-four years of his life in Lyon county. He was born in Grandview township June 6, 1888, received a district school education, and grew to manhood on his father's farm in the town of Nordland.

His parents, Ambros and Gunhild (Shelrud) Amundson, were born in Tellemarken, Norway. They came to Lyon county in an early day and took a homestead in Grandview township, where they resided many years, and then moved to a farm in Nordland, ten miles southwest of Minneota. They now live in Minneota.

Alfred was married in the fall of 1910 and the following spring he and his bride took up their residence in Nordland township, having rented the farm from his father. They have a good farm, improved with new buildings. Mr. Amundson and his wife are members of the Norwegian Lutheran church and he is a member of the Modern Woodmen lodge.

The marriage of Alfred Amundson and Sophia Furgeson took place in Minneota November 2, 1910. Mrs. Amundson was born in the county June 20, 1889, and is a daughter of Henry and Ellen (Johnson) Furgeson, of Island Lake township. To Mr. and Mrs. Amundson has been born one child, Winfred Raymond, born October 19, 1911.

DR. ANDREW D. HOIDALE (1904) is a physician and surgeon of Tracy. He was born in Norway February 3, 1877, the son of Andrew and Dorothy (Lund) Hoidale. When three years of age, in 1880, he was brought with the family to America and spent his boyhood days on a farm on the present site of Dawson, in Lac qui Parle county, Minnesota.

In the schools of Lac qui Parle county young Hoidale secured his primary education. His first employment was newspaper work, being employed by his brother, Einar, as manager of the Dodge County Herald, at Hayfield, Minnesota. He completed his high

school work and then entered the Medical Department of the University of Minnesota, from which he was graduated with the class of 1904.

Immediately after his graduation Dr. Hoidale opened an office at Tracy and has since been engaged in the practice of his profession, now having offices in the Heine Block. Dr. Hoidale holds membership in the American, Minnesota, and the Lyon-Lincoln Medical Associations. For three years he held the position of city health officer. Fraternally he is associated with the Odd Fellows, Elks, Woodmen, Workmen and Degree of Honor.

Dr. Hoidale was married at Kansas City, Missouri, December 27, 1905, to Pauline Madeira, the ceremony being performed by the bride's grandfather, Rev. Addison D. Madeira, who was born in Kentucky and is now eighty-three years of age. Mrs. Hoidale was born in Kansas City, a daughter of Frederick R. and Oak (Porter) Madeira. The Madeira family are of old Kentucky stock, of Spanish descent. Dr. and Mrs. Hoidale have two children, Porter Madeira and Dorothy Ellouise.

In his father's family are eight children, as follows: Aage, a druggist of Seattle; Inga (Mrs. K. O. Rice), of St. Paul; Einar, an attorney of Minneapolis; Gudrun (Mrs. Edward Jackson), of Dawson, Minnesota; Andrew D., of this sketch; Anna (Mrs. E. H. Murray), of Chicago; Hjalmar, an attorney of Minneapolis; and Margaret, of Dawson, Minnesota.

GUSTAVE VERGOTE (1883), proprietor of a blacksmith shop in Marshall, has spent his entire life at his trade and has operated a shop in Lyon county nearly thirty years. He has a wide reputation as a workman and makes a specialty of shoeing fast horses.

Mr. Vergote was born in Belgium April 21, 1855. There he was educated and grew to manhood. He learned the blacksmith and horseshoeing trades in a government school and for fourteen years worked in his father's shop in the old country. In 1883 he came to America with the colony and located in the little village of Ghent. For two years he conducted a shop there and in partnership with Charles Foulon operated a farm under the firm name of Foulon & Vergote.

In the old country Mr. Vergote had learned music and the members of the Marshall band induced him to sell his shop at Ghent and move to the county seat. He played with the Marshall band fifteen years and taught band music. He was also the leader of the Catholic choir five years. When he moved to Marshall Mr. Vergote purchased the Gibson shop and he has ever since conducted the same. He has other city property and owns one of the fine homes of Marshall. He has 160 acres of land on section 29, Island Lake township, land in the St. Louis Valley of Colorado, and twenty acres in Florida.

Mr. Vergote was married in Ghent in June, 1885, to Prudence Gits, a daughter of Francis Gits, of Ghent. Mrs. Vergote died November 15, 1900, aged thirty-two years. To them were born seven children, named as follows: Julian, Albert, Emma and Julia (twins), Henry, Florence and Prudence. The family are members of the Catholic church.

Gustave Vergote is one of a family of nine children born to John and Urisule (DuPrey) Vergote. The five living children of the family are Jule, Mary, Palmyre, Charles and Gustave. The deceased children were Florence, Alfonse, Peter and Odile.

CHARLES AAMODT, grain buyer at Cottonwood for the Anderson Elevator Company, is a native of Lyon county. He was born on his father's homestead, the southeast quarter of section 2, Vallery township, and continued to reside on that place until 1907. That year he spent on a homestead claim in Dunn county, North Dakota.

Mr. Aamodt was educated in the public schools of Cottonwood and in Toland's Business College of Mankato. After having returned from his claim, on August 6, 1909, Mr. Aamodt entered the employ of the Anderson Elevator Company at Cottonwood and has since been its local manager.

On October 23, 1910, in Lyon county, Mr. Aamodt was married to Clara D. L. Nelson, who was born in Pipestone county. Mr. Aamodt and wife are members of the Norwegian Lutheran church.

The parents of our subject are G. O. and Liv (Gullickson) Aamodt. They were born in Norway, came to America in the late seventies, and took a homestead claim in Vallery township, upon which they still re-

side. They have seven children, as follows: Hilda, Mary, Olie, Fred, Charles, John and George.

LEVI PRAIRIE (1886) is the proprietor of the southeast quarter of section 35, Westerheim township, the farm bought by his father in 1886.

Levi was born in Kankakee county, Illinois, February 14, 1876, and is a son of Clovis and Mary (Lord) Prairie, now deceased. The parents were of French descent and were born in Canada. They moved to Illinois, being among the early settlers, and for a number of years were residents of that state; later they lived in Missouri and Wisconsin. In the spring of 1886 they came to Lyon county and purchased the farm where Levi now resides. The elder Prairies moved to Ghent to live in 1902 and there resided until their deaths. The mother died in 1905 and the father in 1910.

Our subject accompanied his parents to Lyon county when ten years of age and resided with them until 1902, being brought up on the farm and educated in the district school. In the latter year Levi married and engaged in farming for himself on rented land in the township, and after his father's death in 1910 he became the owner of the home place. He has a fine place and is engaging profitably in general farming and in stock raising.

The marriage of Levi Prairie and Georgiana Pilotte occurred at Ghent January 7, 1902. She was born in Kankakee county, Illinois, July 25, 1882, and is a daughter of Lucian and Louise (Savoy) Pilotte, both of whom are living in the township. They came to Lyon county in 1900 and engaged in farming. Mr. and Mrs. Prairie are the parents of one child, Howard Rudolph, born March 3, 1904. The boy is now attending the Sisters School at Ghent. The Prairies are members of the Catholic church.

Our subject has the following brothers and sisters living: Mary (Mrs. Raphael Supernaut), of Murray county; Clovis, of Momence, Illinois; Madrid (Mrs. Cyril Paradis) and Ambrose, of Fairview township; Lizzie (Mrs. John Hollo), of Marshall; Joseph, of Oregon; Matilda (Mrs.

Charles Blodgett), of Ghent; Julia (Mrs. Ambrose Regnier) and Celia (Mrs. Felix Rivard), both of Lake Marshall township.

Fraternally Mr. Prairie is allied with the Modern Woodmen lodge of Ghent.

A. GORDON FORBES (1886), although a young man, is one of the prominent citizens of Marshall. He is a native of that city, having been born July 28, 1886. His education was obtained in the public schools and he was a member of the graduating class of 1905.

Our subject's family moved to St. Paul, Minnesota, soon after the boy's graduation from high school, and D. D. Forbes, the father, became associated with the Burchar-Hulburt Investment Company. He was also the president of a manufacturing establishment in the city, and Gordon and his older brother, Malcolm, assisted in the management. D. D. Forbes died in May, 1908, and after the settling of the estate Gordon and his younger brother, Harold, engaged in the real estate business in Vancouver, Washington.

Mr. Forbes was a resident of Vancouver until 1911, when he and his brother sold their real estate business, and he has since been located in Marshall. He is engaged in real estate transactions and owns considerable farm land and town property, the overseeing of which takes much of his time. Mr. Forbes makes his office in the Marshall State Bank, of which institution his uncle, S. J. Forbes, is the cashier. He is popular among the young people of the town and is fraternally associated with the Elks lodge.

D. D. Forbes, father of the subject of this sketch, was born in Canada January 9, 1856. At the age of twenty-four he came to Lyon county, locating in Fairview township. There he farmed until his marriage to Elizabeth A. McNiven November 2, 1883. His wife died September 14, 1895. One year after his marriage Mr. Forbes moved to Marshall and for five years worked for a machinery house; then he went into the real estate business.

For several years he was associated with his brother, and after the latter's death D. D. Forbes formed a partnership with J. A. McNiven, and for many years the firm of Forbes & McNiven conducted a

large real estate, loan and insurance business in Marshall. The senior partner retired from the firm in 1905 and moved to St. Paul, where he resided until his death. There were four sons born to Mr. and Mrs. D. D. Forbes. Bruce V., the youngest boy, died in St. Paul in 1907. The other boys are Malcolm C., a farmer residing near Marshall; A. Gordon, of this sketch; and Harold H., of Vancouver, Washington.

EMIL O. GREEN (1896) is one of the big farmers and fancy stock raisers of Shelburne township. He resides on the northeast quarter of section 32, which he rents from his father, and farms about 300 acres of land.

Emil O. Green is the son of C. F. and Mary (Carlson) Green, who now live a retired life in the village of Florence. The family were early settlers of Murray county, having located there in the early seventies. They took up their residence in Florence in 1896, where the elder Mr. Green erected the first hotel and where he later engaged in the lumber and fuel business.

To these parents Emil was born in Murray county November 11, 1884. He secured his primary education in the common schools of Murray county and of Florence, which he attended until eighteen years of age. After his school days Mr. Green was in the hardware business with his father at Florence two years. In the fall of 1904 he attended the Superior (Wisconsin) Business College three months, after which he entered Sioux Falls Business College, from which he was graduated May 11, 1905.

Mr. Green then rented his father's farm and has since conducted it. He engages extensively in stock raising, making a specialty of sheep, which he raises, feeds and ships. He has a number of imported Shropshires. He also raises fancy poultry, having White Holland turkeys and Buff Wyandotte chickens.

Hannah E. Sanden became the wife of Emil Green at St. Paul on July 5, 1911. She was born in Lyon county June 21, 1888, and is the daughter of Hans P. and Mary Sanden, pioneer settlers of Shelburne

township. The family are members of the Current Lake Swedish Lutheran church and Mr. Green is a member of the Masonic lodge of Ruthton.

SHERMAN HILL (1907), Lake Marshall township farmer, is a native of Iroquois county, Illinois, and was born November 21, 1866. His parents are Joseph and Laura (Moffit) Hill, natives of Vermont who came to Illinois in an early day. Sherman received his education in the district schools near his home in Kankakee, Illinois, and in 1886 rented his father's farm. He operated that several years and later purchased the same.

Mr. Hill's wife died July 25, 1907, and that year he and the family came to Lyon county and rented the land in Lake Marshall township upon which he still lives. He raises a great deal of stock, including thoroughbred Jersey cattle, Berkshire hogs and Percheron horses.

On March 30, 1886, at Kankakee, Illinois, occurred the marriage of Mr. Hill to Elizabeth Collins, a native of Hillsboro, Ohio. She was a daughter of Theodore and Leah (Leatherwood) Collins, the former a native of Virginia and the latter of Ohio. Mrs. Hill was born March 5, 1867. To Mr. and Mrs. Hill were born the following named twelve children: Bessie E. (Mrs. Arthur Manning), born January 26, 1887; Mattie E. (Mrs. Henry Dusharme), born April 10, 1888; Joseph T., born October 9, 1890; Ray M., born August 4, 1891; Harry H., born October 8, 1893; Neva M., born March 16, 1895; Merrill V., born February 29, 1896; Bertha L., born December 26, 1899; George T. C., born October 29, 1900; Sherman S., born July 14, 1904; Shirley S., born July 14, 1904; Dortha N. S., born July 9, 1906.

A. C. PORTER (1904) is a resident of Marshall and the proprietor of the Marshall Bottling Works. He is a native of North Troy, Vermont, and was born June 15, 1852, the son of Eleazer and Mary Ann (Culver) Porter, also natives of Vermont.

At the age of sixteen years Mr. Porter moved to La Crosse, Wisconsin, where he spent the next eleven years of his life.

There he completed his education and later learned the drug business and jeweler's trade. There he also worked in the machine shops of C. C. & E. G. Smith, railroad contractors. Mr. Porter later had charge of the pile-driver that drove the piles in the bridge at Lake St. Croix for the West Wisconsin railroad in 1872.

In 1879 Mr. Porter located at Volga, South Dakota, where he conducted a drug and jewelry store and where he later engaged in the general merchandise business. When the St. Louis, Fort Scott & Wichita railroad was built in 1882 Mr. Porter was the purchasing agent and had headquarters at Fort Scott, Kansas. He was also paymaster and bookkeeper for the C. D. & M. railroad at Dubuque when that road was built.

From Volga Mr. Porter went to Watertown in 1902 to take a position as traveling representative for an eastern firm. Later he established the Watertown Carbonating Company, Incorporated, but sold out in 1904 and located in Marshall. Upon his arrival to the capital city of Lyon county Mr. Porter purchased two small bottling works and established the Marshall Bottling Works, of which he has ever since been the head. He manufactures many kinds of carbonated beverages. Mr. Porter is also the proprietor of the famous Silver springs, which are located at the bottling works. There is a thousand barrel reservoir and there is ready sale for all the water. Samples of the water were taken to Washington by Oscar E. Meinzer, of the United States Geological Survey, and analyzed by government officials. It was pronounced pure and soft and the very best spring water found in this section of the state.

Mr. Porter is a man of family, having been married at Ottumwa, Iowa, to Nellie A. Schriver, a native of Lincoln, Illinois, and the daughter of Henry Schriver. Mr. and Mrs. Porter have two children: Burt F., who conducts the Lyric Picture House, and Ethel C.

In several worthy fraternal orders Mr. Porter is identified. He has been a Mason since he was twenty-one years of age, having joined lodge No. 18 at Troy, Vermont, in 1873. He is a charter member of the Blue Lodge at Volga, South Da-

kota, and a charter member of the Royal Arch Masons at Arlington, South Dakota. Mr. Porter also holds membership in the Elks, M. W. A. and United Commercial Travelers.

CHARLES FOULON (1883) is cashier of the First State Bank of Ghent and is president of the Village Council of that village. He has been a resident of Lyon county nearly thirty years and has taken a prominent part in the affairs of his community.

Mr. Foulon was born in Belgium December 7, 1856. His parents, E. Foulon and J. (Deleplanque) Foulon, died in the old country and our subject is the only one of the family residing in America. Charles made his home on a farm in the old country and received a college education. He came to the United States in 1883 and settled near the village of Ghent when there were only a few little buildings in the town.

Upon his arrival Mr. Foulon purchased the southwest quarter of section 4, Grandview township, and farmed the place two years. During the next two years he was at Currie, working in the flour mill of Currie & Crowl. Returning to Lyon county, Mr. Foulon engaged in farming on section 1, Stanley township, until 1899. That year he moved to Ghent and for four years conducted the C. M. Youmans lumber yard. Then with several others he organized the Bank of Ghent and was made its cashier, a position he has since held. A reorganization was effected in 1908 and the institution became the First State Bank of Ghent.

Besides his banking interests Mr. Foulon devotes some of his time to the management of his Lyon county farms. He has prospered since coming to the county and is rated among the successful men of Lyon. Mr. Foulon has served as president of the Village Council a number of terms and has held other offices of trust, having been clerk and treasurer of the Board of Education and president of the Ghent Fire Department. He is a member of the Catholic church and of the Catholic Order of Foresters.

The marriage of Mr. Foulon to Clem-

ence Gits was solemnized at Ghent May 31, 1892. She is also a native of Belgium. To them have been born the following named three children: Helen, a graduate of St. Catherine's College of St. Paul; Mary, a graduate of the same school; and Emma, who attends school in Belgium. All the children have studied French in Belgium.

EDWARD SCHREIBER (1884), proprietor of a hardware and implement store at Ghent, has resided in Lyon county all his life. He is a Lyon county product that has certainly "made good." Although a young man, he has built up an enormous business and is rated as one of the most successful business men of the county, accomplished through a strict application to business, an indomitable purpose and honest dealing. He has great faith in the future prosperity of his town and has done his share toward its present standing of one of the best little towns in Southwestern Minnesota.

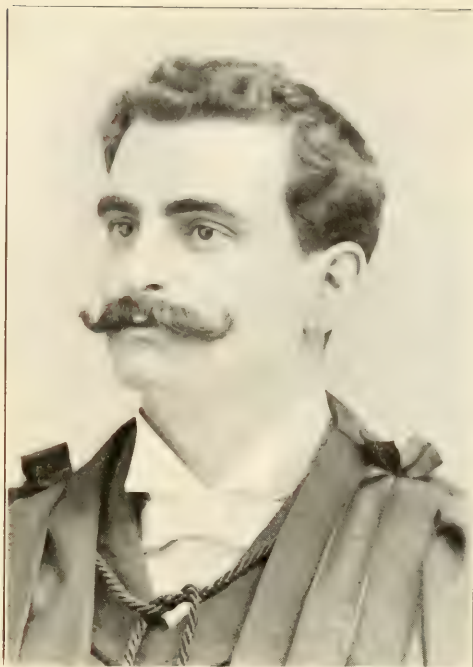
Our subject was born on his father's farm, the east half of section 25, Westenheim township, on May 11, 1884, and grew to manhood on that farm. After completing the course provided by the district school, he attended St. Michael's Convent at New Ulm three terms, the Marshall High School two years, the Marshall Business College one year, and completed his education in St. Thomas College at St. Paul.

Mr. Schreiber located in Ghent in 1904 and the first year worked for Lerschen Brothers in the hardware and implement business. Then he bought the firm's business, including the buildings and grounds, and has since conducted the store. He has more than doubled the stock and business and has made the business a paying one. He deals in hardware, farm implements, wagons, buggies, gasoline engines, pumps, automobiles and furniture and buys and ships live stock.

For several terms Mr. Schreiber has served as a member of the Ghent Village Council. He belongs to the Catholic church, the C. O. F. lodge, of which he is an officer, and the M. W. A. lodge, having been the first venerable counsel of the



CHARLES FOULON  
Cashier of the First State Bank of Ghent.



THE LATE DR. E. F. ST. DENIS  
Former Medical Practitioner of Ghent.



EDWARD SCHREIBER  
Proprietor of a Ghent Hardware and Imple-  
ment Store.



ABEL D. SCHAEFFER  
Proprietor of a Ghent Harness Store.



local lodge of the last named order. Mr. Schreiber is a stockholder of the Ghent Farmers Elevator Company and a charter member of the Ghent Fire Department. He is president of the Ghent Rural Telephone Company, owned by the business men of Ghent.

Mr. Schreiber was married in Ghent June 19, 1907, to Julia Dierick, a native of Illinois. They have two children, Alfred and Alice.

The parents of our subject were Joseph and Johanna (Brewers) Schreiber. They came from Germany to Lyon county in 1883, bought the east half of section 25, Westerheim township, improved the farm, and resided thereon until their deaths. Mr. Schreiber died in 1891 at the age of forty-six years and his wife in 1903, aged fifty-six years. To them were born the following named children, all born on the Westerheim township farm: Garhard, who resides on the old home farm; Edward, of this review; Louise (Mrs. Ed Gits), of Ghent; and Mary (Mrs. Philip Paradies), of Marshall.

ABEL D. SCHAEFER (1901) is a dealer in harness goods in the village of Ghent. He was born in Beveren Via Audenaerde, Belgium, January 21, 1874, and is a son of Alfonso Schaefer, who resides in France. The mother died in 1883. Abel has two brothers and one sister in this country: Rev. Fr. Schaefer, of Lucan; Camille, of Ghent; and Mary Philomena, of Lucan.

Our subject learned the trade of harness making and carriage upholstery from his father. When fifteen years of age he went to France, where he worked at his trade for some time. He then returned to Belgium and remained two years.

In November, 1901, Mr. Schaefer came to the United States and to Lyon county. He located at Ghent, where his brother, Rev. Fr. Schaefer, then resided. The following January our subject lost all his belongings in a fire which destroyed the Catholic church and the priest's home. In February, 1902, Mr. Schaefer engaged in the harness business at Ghent. Since that time he has built up a fine business and has prospered. He carries a full line

of harness, trunks, bags, saddles and harness hardware. He purchased the building which he occupies in December, 1902, and in the summer of 1911 built an addition, which he uses for a residence.

Mr. Schaefer is a member of the Catholic church and the Catholic Order of Foresters lodge, of which he is secretary. He is collector for the National Casualty Company and secretary and treasurer of the Rural Telephone Company of Ghent. He is vice president of the Ghent Fire Department.

On May 22, 1894, in France, occurred the marriage of Mr. Schaefer to Mary C. Guesquiere. They are the parents of one child, Amandine.

DR. E. F. ST. DENIS (1906), deceased, was a physician and surgeon of Ghent. He was born at St. Anne de Bellevue, Montreal, Quebec, Canada, a son of Anthony and Angeline (La Marche) St. Denis, the former a resident of Canada, the latter deceased. They were the parents of ten children, all of whom are deceased.

Dr. St. Denis received his education in the land of his nativity and was graduated from the Medical Department of Laval University in 1896. The next year he came to the United States and located at Bradley, Illinois, where he practised his profession until 1906. Then he came to Lyon county and located at Ghent, in April, 1906, where he practised until his death in May, 1912. Dr. St. Denis was a member of the Minnesota State Medical Association and the County Physicians Association. He was medical examiner for the M. W. A. and C. O. F. lodges and held membership in both orders. He was also health officer of Ghent.

Dr. St. Denis was married at Rockford, Illinois, May 15, 1906, to Mary DuBois, a native of Chicago. They had two children, Edward and Clara.

JOHN H. BOT (1886) is the owner of a fine farm in Grandview township, one mile from Ghent. His place is part of the original farm owned by his father. It is well improved, and besides conduct-

ing a successful farm Mr. Bot is raising cattle and hogs for market.

William H. and Debora (Schrueder) Bot, parents of our subject, were Hollanders and came to Lyon county in 1886, locating in Grandview township, on the farm now occupied by their son John. The father prospered and at the time of his death in April, 1906, was the owner of 1200 acres of Lyon county farm land. Mrs. William H. Bot lives in Ghent.

John Bot was born in Holland September 13, 1879, and came to America with his parents at the age of seven years. He grew up on the farm in Grandview township and was educated in the country school. After his father's death John and his brother, William H. Bot, rented the home farm two years, and then John took full charge and later bought the place, which he has since conducted. He is one of the progressive young farmers of the township and is well known throughout the neighboring country. Mr. Bot has served the past seven years as clerk of the township board and for several years has been clerk of school district No. 31.

Our subject has five brothers and one sister living. They are Hero W., Henry J. and William H., all of Ghent; Bernard H. and Regnier J., of Grandview township; and Kate (Mrs. Joseph Senden), of Grandview township. John Bot is a member of the Catholic church and holds membership in the Catholic Order of Foresters lodge.

J. N. WIESNER (1891) has for the past eight years been the proprietor of a confectionery, cigar and tobacco store in Tracy. From the time Mr. Wiesner moved to Tracy in 1891 until 1904 he was local agent for the John Gund Brewing Company of Milwaukee.

Our subject was born in Bohemia July 25, 1854, and when twelve years old started out in life for himself. He first went to Vienna and two years later came to the United States with his uncle, John Wiesner, in the spring of 1869. The two men located in New Ulm, where J. N. Wiesner worked for eight years. Thence he went to Owatonna and later to Alden, in Freeborn county, where he engaged in

the saloon business for the next two years.

The John Gund Brewing Company engaged Mr. Wiesner's services at that time, and for the next few years he was in that company's employ, part of the time in Alden and part of the time in Owatonna. In 1885 J. N. Wiesner and his brother, J. J. Wiesner, started in the butcher business in the town of Wells, this state. This was continued for two years, the brothers then moving to Owatonna, where they conducted a meat market four years. In 1891 J. N. Wiesner again entered the John Gund Brewing Company's employ and located in Tracy as their local agent, which position he held for fourteen years prior to opening his confectionery and tobacco store, which he bought from George Town.

The subject of our sketch was married at Owatonna on June 8, 1881, to Barbara Huffman. The young lady who became his wife came to this country with her parents when she was one year old. The Wiesners have two children. The son, Fred, is a civil engineer in the employ of the Great Northern Railroad Company and is located at Great Falls, Montana. Gladys, the daughter, lives at home.

Mr. Wiesner served on the City Council of Tracy four years. During three years of that time he was president of the council. Fraternally he is associated with the A. O. U. W. and the K. of P. lodges.

Two sisters of Mr. Wiesner are living in this country. Annie Wiesner lives in New Ulm and Kate Wiesner is a resident of Owatonna.

RASMUS B. SAMPSON (1902), farmer and land owner of Island Lake township, was born in Sonhorland, Norway, February 13, 1873, and his parents still live in the old country. They are Sampson R. Bjelleboe and Britha (Aarthum) Bjelleboe.

Rasmus received a common school education in his native land and at the age of sixteen years set out alone for America to seek his fortune. He located at Story City, Iowa, where he had relatives, and for a number of years worked out as a farm hand, during the first year receiv-

ing \$12 per month. He rented land in Hamilton county in 1898 and farmed the next four years.

In 1901 Mr. Sampson bought the north-east quarter of section 16, Island Lake township, and the next year he and his family moved to their new home. He feeds and ships stock, making a specialty of Shorthorn cattle and Duroc-Jersey hogs. Mr. Sampson has stock in the Farmers Elevator Company of Lynd and is justice of the peace of his precinct. He and his family are members of the Norwegian Lutheran church.

The marriage of Mr. Sampson to Guirena Sunnoe occurred in Hamilton county, Iowa, June 16, 1896. His wife was born in Stavanger, Norway, November 14, 1868, and her parents were Narve and Gunhild (Sunnoe) Olson, both of whom died in the old country. Mr. and Mrs. Sampson are the parents of the following named children: Selmer B., Gerhart N., Alwin S., Gladys R., Richard O., Martha G., Bertha S. and Chris.

DR. WARD AKESTER (1909) is one of the leading physicians and surgeons of Marshall, and he has attained a prominent place in the city's professional and social affairs. The doctor was born at Washington, Indiana, May 17, 1880. He was graduated from the Farina, Illinois, High School and took a two years' academic course at Austin College, Effingham, Illinois. Then he entered the Medical College of Indiana, from which he was graduated in 1902.

Soon after his graduation Dr. Akester began the practice of his profession at Clay City, Illinois, and later was for some time the surgeon in charge of the State Hospital at Chester, Illinois. He located in Marshall in 1909 to make his permanent home. He has built up a splendid practice and enjoys the esteem and confidence of the public. His office is in nicely appointed rooms over the Marshall State Bank. Dr. Akester is a member of many of the leading medical and surgical societies of the country. He is a Royal Arch Mason and a member of the Eastern Star, Odd Fellows and Woodmen lodges.

The parents of our subject were also born in Indiana. Washington Akester still lives

in Washington, Indiana; Martha (Ward) Akester died in March, 1900. Dr. Akester has one brother and one sister, Dr. J. Akester, of Farina, Illinois, and Cora Akester, of the Indiana State University.

Dr. Akester was married at Clay City, Illinois, June 30, 1906, to Bess Pauline Kempshall. She is a native of New Britain, Connecticut, and a daughter of William F. and Nell (Drausfield) Kempshall. Mrs. Akester is a member of the Christian church and of the Eastern Star and Rebekah lodges.

ANDREW P. LINDEN (1893) is a farmer and land owner of Coon Creek township. He is a native of Sweden and was born near Granna March 25, 1868, the son of Swan Anderson Linden. The father died in February, 1910; the mother is still living and resides at Belgrade, Minnesota.

The subject of this sketch received his education in the land of his nativity, where he attended school until fifteen years of age. In 1884 he came to Minnesota and located at Belgrade, Stearns county, where he worked at farm labor eight years. He also worked in Minneapolis for a short time. In 1892 he purchased a quarter section of land in Coon Creek township, which he still owns and operates. He raises Poland China hogs, Hereford cattle and Barred Plymouth chickens. Mr. Linden is a member of the Swedish Free Mission church. He is a stockholder in the Farmers Mutual Telephone Company.

On July 10, 1897, Mr. Linden was united in marriage to Amanda Johnson, a daughter of John and Mary (Peterson) Johnson, who reside at the home of our subject. Mrs. Linden is a native of Sweden and was born November 8, 1873.

Mr. Linden is a successful farmer and stockraiser. He has four brothers and one sister: August and Frank, of Stearns county; Edward and John, of Chicago, Illinois; Mrs. August Anderson, of Stearns county.

Mrs. Linden has two brothers and two sisters: Nels and Solomon Johnson, of Shelburne township, and Mrs. Hattie Enell, of California, and Mrs. Mary Elison.

OLUF G. OLSON (1901) is the manager and buyer for the grocery, shoe and fur-

nishing goods departments of the L. Abrahamson store at Cottonwood. He was born in La Crosse, Wisconsin, October 14, 1866. He is a son of Nels B. Olson, who homesteaded land in Monona county, Iowa, in 1861. The latter served in a Wisconsin company during the Civil War. After the war he returned home and later moved to Sioux City, Iowa, where he resided ten years and died in 1906. The mother died in 1903.

Oluf accompanied his parents to the West when he was but one year old and resided with them on the farm until eighteen years of age. Then he went to Beloit, Iowa, and attended Augustana College, after which he went to Sioux City, Iowa, and took a course in the Sioux City Business College. For the next seven years Mr. Olson was connected with the United States Clothing Company and then spent eight years as salesman for the Browning-King Clothing Company.

In the spring of 1901 our subject came to Lyon county and located at Cottonwood. In company with William B. Olson and A. O. Anderson, he opened a mercantile business under the firm name of the Anderson-Olson Company. They conducted the business three years and then reorganized and established the Cottonwood Mercantile Company, A. O. Anderson selling his interest and the new firm being composed of A. B. Anderson, O. G. and W. B. Olson. Mr. Olson was a member of that firm two years, when he sold his interest to Anderson Brothers. He then went to Normania, Yellow Medicine county, where, in company with M. S. Runsold, he opened a mercantile store and conducted it until 1908. They sold the business and our subject returned to Cottonwood and has since been associated with L. Abrahamson as buyer and manager.

Mr. Olson was president of the Cottonwood Commercial Club two and one-half years. He is a member of the Norwegian Lutheran church and the Norden Mandskor, a vocal organization, of which he was secretary.

At Sloan, Iowa, June 4, 1887, occurred the marriage of Mr. Olson to Matilda S. Strand, a native of La Crosse county, Wisconsin. Mr. and Mrs. Olson are the parents of the following children: Ella M., Harry N., Ruth and Herbert. Their oldest child, Mabel, died at the age of four years.

TELES PARADIS, JR. (1884) is a farmer of Lake Marshall township. He was born in St. John, Canada, May 30, 1881, a son of Teles and Selina (Demery) Paradis, natives of Canada.

When three years of age our subject accompanied his parents to America and located in Lyon county, the father purchasing 160 acres of land in Fairview township. There the family lived sixteen years, when the father sold and purchased 240 acres on section 27, Lake Marshall township. Teles, Jr., resided with his parents until 1907, when he rented the southwest quarter of section 34, Lake Marshall township, and has lived there since. He is a member of the Catholic church.

The subject of this review was married in Marshall on May 7, 1907, to Alma Boudreau, a native of Chicago. She is a daughter of Henry and Hermine (Morin) Boudreau, who now live in Fairview township, Lyon county. Mr. and Mrs. Paradis are the parents of the following children: Louis, born April 1, 1908; Jenneville, born March 12, 1909; Bernice, born May 7, 1910; Luella Agnes, born December 25, 1911.

GEORGE G. LOWE (1884), junior member of the Marshall clothing firm of Olson & Lowe, is a native of Lyon county, having been born in Stanley township February 28, 1884. He is the son of George and Maggie (Glashen) Lowe, who now reside in Cottonwood. His mother is a native of Wisconsin and his father of Scotland. The latter came to the United States at the age of seventeen years and settled in Lake City, Minnesota, where he was married. The family came to Lyon county in 1874 and took as a homestead the northwest quarter of section 6, Stanley township. They resided on the farm until 1902, when the father moved to Cottonwood to engage in the grain business. There are four children in the family, namely: Alex, cashier in a bank at Wood Lake, Minnesota; Mrs. Theodore M. Thomas, of Marshall; Mrs. Hugo H. Gieseke, of Marshall; and the subject of this review.

George Lowe spent his boyhood days on the farm. He was educated in the district schools and in the Marshall High

School. At the age of nineteen years he took employment with Olson Brothers and he has been connected with that store ever since. He was employed as a clerk until the death of John Olson in 1904, when he became the manager of the store. In January, 1909, he became a member of the firm.

The firm of Olson Brothers was established in October, 1900, by John G., Martin G. and Ed. C. Olson, and that was the title until Mr. Lowe became a member of the firm. The store is the oldest exclusive clothing store in the city. The company deals in clothing, men's furnishings, trunks, shoes, etc.

Mr. Lowe was married at Le Roy, Minnesota, January 20, 1912, to Lura B. Wells, a native of the city in which she was married and a daughter of George Wells. Mr. Lowe is a member of the Masonic and Woodmen orders.

WILLIAM H. EDWARDS (1894) owns and operates 240 acres of land on section 29, Sodus township. He was born in Blue Earth county, Minnesota, December 6, 1867. His parents are William and Margaret (Davis) Edwards, both natives of Wales. They came to the United States in an early day and settled in Blue Earth county, where our subject was born and grew to manhood. He assisted his father on the farm until 1894.

In the year last named our subject came to Lyon county and purchased eighty acres on section 29, Sodus township. Later he purchased the northeast quarter of the same section. He operates the entire 240 acres. Mr. Edwards is a member of the Township Board of Supervisors.

On June 27, 1897, Mr. Edwards was married to Jane Scott, a native of Lyon county. She is a daughter of John and Mary Ann (Lewis) Scott, of Sodus township. Mr. and Mrs. Edwards have three children: Edwin, Mary and Irene.

DR. DON CASSELMAN (1886) is a member of the firm of James & Casselman, dentists, of Tracy. He is the son of John J. Casselman, of Tracy, who was born in Ontario, Canada, and who for the

past twenty-six years has been in the employ of the Northwestern Railroad Company.

Don Casselman was born in Sleepy Eye, Minnesota, September 8, 1884. Soon after his birth the family moved to Huron, South Dakota, and two years later to Tracy. After a residence there of seven years, the family again moved to Huron, but in 1900 returned to Tracy for permanent residence. Don attended the Tracy High School, for one year was a student in the Chicago College of Dental Surgery, and then took a course in the Minnesota University, from the Dental Department of which he was graduated in 1905. After his graduation Dr. Casselman formed a partnership with his uncle, Dr. W. D. James, and has since been engaged in practice.

The marriage of Dr. Casselman to Vera Edwards occurred at Tracy October 16, 1907. She is the daughter of W. R. Edwards, who for so many years published the Tracy Republican-Trumpet. Dr. and Mrs. Casselman have one child, Genevieve.

GEORGE H. JOHNSON (1893) owns and farms the southeast quarter of section 19, Rock Lake township. He raises considerable stock and during the fall seasons he operates a threshing rig in his part of the county. He is a shareholder and one of the directors of the Farmers Elevator Company of Balaton.

George Johnson's parents came from Iroquois county, Illinois. His father, Henry H. Johnson, moved to this county in 1891 and settled in Shelburne township, on the south half of section 25. The mother and the rest of the family came in 1893.

Our subject was born in Iroquois county, Illinois, January 14, 1875. He received his early education in his native state and worked on his father's farm. He was eighteen years old when the mother and her children came to Lyon county in 1893 to join the father, who had preceded them two years. George helped his father on the farm and worked out for others until 1901, when he purchased the farm which he now owns and started farming for himself.

Mr. Johnson was married February 26, 1908, to Myrtle Blanchard, a native of Clear Lake, Iowa. The wedding occurred at Marshall. Mrs. Johnson was born March 31, 1888, and is a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. O. W. Blanchard, now residents of Balaton. Her father is a native of Wisconsin and her mother was brought up in Iowa. Our subject's father, Henry Johnson, died in 1901, and his mother, Annie (Gerdes) Johnson, died in 1895.

WESLEY W. SIMMONS (1892), real estate and insurance agent of Marshall, has passed his entire life in Southern Minnesota and first came to Lyon county twenty years ago. He was born in Hector, Renville county, August 11, 1874, the son of pioneer residents of Southern Minnesota.

The father, William H. Simmons, was born in England and came to the United States when nine years of age. He settled in Renville county forty years ago and homesteaded land. He was living there during the terrible grasshopper scourge of the early seventies and was named by a committee of citizens of his neighborhood to go to St. Paul to solicit aid from the governor. He walked practically the entire distance—some sixty-five or seventy miles—and through his efforts aid was granted to the sufferers of his county. He was married to Mrs. Fannie French, also a native of England. They located in Lyon county in 1892 and bought land in Lynd township. Mr. and Mrs. Simmons now reside in Marshall. There are four children in the family, as follows: Edward and Lizzie (Mrs. William F. Markus), of Duluth, who are children of Mrs. Simmons by her former marriage; Laura (Mrs. C. K. Gillett), of Weyerhauser, Wisconsin; and Wesley W. There were two other children in the Simmons family. Arthur died in 1892 at the age of twenty-eight years; Frank died January 22, 1910, aged thirty-eight years.

At the age of seven years Wesley W. Simmons accompanied the family from Renville county to Minneapolis, but three years later a return to his native county was made. In 1892 he came with his parents to Lyon county. The first home was on section 35, Lynd township, where Wesley engaged in farming with his father until 1898.

Then he and his brother bought land on sections 26 and 35 and for a time farmed in partnership. Our subject left his brother in charge of the farm, went to St. Paul, and until 1905 he clerked in a hotel. That year he located in Tracy and bought grain for the Sleepy Eye Milling Company. One year later he located in Marshall and for three years was agent for the Marshall Milling Company.

In recent years Mr. Simmons has been engaged in the real estate and insurance business. He is district manager for the Central Life Insurance Company of Des Moines, his territory embracing the counties of Lyon, Redwood, Yellow Medicine, Lac qui Parle and Lincoln. He is the owner of 240 acres on section 35, Lynd township, the northeast quarter of section 2, Lyons township, and farm land in Colorado. In Marshall he owns the brick block occupied by the Birkenmeyer dry goods store and the Adair millinery store and two residence properties.

Mr. Simmons was married at Ackley, Iowa, September 18, 1907, to Anna M. Krumling, a native of the city in which she was married. Mr. Simmons is a member of the Masonic and Eastern Star lodges.

PEDER FROLAND (1891) is one of the substantial farmers of Vallers township, being the proprietor of 200 acres of some of the finest farming land of the township. The place is well improved and Mr. Froland is engaging quite extensively in stock raising.

Our subject was born in Hjorenfjord, Norway, February 23, 1865, and is a son of Ole and Maghild (Salret) Froland, both of whom are dead. Peter was educated in his native land and lived at home with his parents, assisting with the farm work, until twenty years of age. He then came to America and located in Yellow Medicine county, Minnesota. There he worked out at farm labor three years and then purchased eighty acres and started farming for himself, renting additional land and later buying another eighty acres. The young man prospered and in 1890 sold out and made a trip back to the Fatherland.

While on this trip Peder was married to Jacobine Willi, on March 31, 1891. She was born in Norway April 17, 1870, and is a daughter of Ole and Johanna Willi, both liv-

ing in the Fatherland. Peder and his young wife returned to America in the spring of 1891, and he bought the northwest quarter of section 9, Vallers township, which has been his home since and to which he has added an additional forty acres. Mr. Froland is chairman of the school board of district No. 56 and is one of the progressive men of the township.

Mr. and Mrs. Froland are the parents of eight children: Margaret A., Johannah P., Odella J., Laura W., Pearl J., Bennie, Ruth C. and Frances I. S.

CELFSTE AMPE (1901), a resident of Ghent since coming to Lyon county in 1901, is proprietor of a blacksmith and wagon repair shop. He is conducting a well paying business, owns the shop he is in, and owns also two nice residence properties in the village. Mr. Ampe is a member of the Town Board of Ghent and served on the Village Council two terms.

Aluis and Lena (Cysello) Ampe, parents of Celeste, were natives of Belgium, and our subject was born there November 17, 1875. The parents never came to this country, and the father is still living in Belgium, the mother being deceased. Celeste received his school education in the land of his birth, and from the time he was fourteen until his twenty-fourth birthday he worked at home for his father. Coming to America in 1899, Celeste located at Brainerd, Minnesota, where he was employed in the Great Northern railroad shops.

In 1901 our subject came to Lyon county and located at Ghent, where he worked in a blacksmith shop eight months. He then moved to Marshall and worked in Paul Gits' blacksmith shop one year. Returning to Ghent, he purchased the Victor Mileone blacksmith shop, which he has since conducted.

Celeste Ampe was married February 6, 1906, to Nellie Moors, a native of Belgium. They are the parents of four children, Peter, Mathew, John and Alouis. Mr. Ampe is a member of the Catholic church and conductor of the C. O. F. lodge.

JAMES J. AHERN (1882), of Eidsvold township, has been a resident of Lyon coun-

ty thirty years, since he was eight years of age. He farms 400 acres of the 560 acres of his father's estate, the home place being on the southwest quarter of section 8, adjoining the village of Taunton.

Mr. Ahern is a son of the late Garrett Ahern and Kate (Brown) Ahern. The parents came from Ireland and were early settlers of Illinois. They came to Lyon county in 1882 and took up their residence in Eidsvold township. The father died in 1897 and the mother now makes her home with the subject of this review.

To these parents, in Sangamon county, Illinois, on October 9, 1874, James J. Ahern was born. In 1882 he came with the family to Lyon county, and his home has ever since been in Eidsvold township. He assisted in the management of the home farm until 1903 and since that time he has had full charge.

Mr. Ahern is a member of the Catholic church of Minneota, of the Knights of Columbus lodge of Marshall, and of the Modern Woodmen lodge of Taunton. Of the last named he is one of the managers. Mr. Ahern is not married. His brothers and sisters are Garrett, Philip P. and Michael, of Taunton; Thomas, of Hampden, North Dakota; William, of Eidsvold township; Josie and Nance, who live at home; Nellie (Mrs. Thomas Walsh), of Fargo, North Dakota; and Katherine (Mrs. M. J. Breen), of Minneapolis.

W. W. COOK (1900), of Marshall, is the proprietor of one of the largest department stores in Lyon county and is a man who has spent his entire life in the mercantile business. He was born in Ohio, but in 1857 located in Austin, Minnesota, where he grew to young manhood. He attended the common schools and completed his education in Oberlin (Ohio) College, after which he engaged in mercantile pursuits.

Mr. Cook clerked a few years in a dry goods store in St. Paul and then returned to Austin, where he engaged in the business for himself. The next ten years were spent in business in Chicago, and then for fourteen years he had charge of the dry goods department of a department store in St. Paul. At Duluth Mr. Cook was the manager of the Patton & Watson department store. Thereafter for several years he was in busi-

ness at St. Cloud and Melrose. In 1900 Mr. Cook located in Marshall and opened a stock of goods in the Chittenden building, where he has ever since been engaged in business. He carries a large stock of dry goods, notions and shoes and his store is known as "The Big Store."

Our subject is the son of W. W. and Martha B. (Little) Cook. They were born in New York State but moved to Oberlin, Ohio, in an early day. They later settled in Austin, Minnesota, where the father died at the age of forty-five years. The mother died in Marshall in 1907.

Mr. Cook has always taken an active part in the affairs of his city, doing more than his share in the promotion of every worthy cause. He is imbued with patriotism for his home city and is an enthusiastic supporter of every institution that will add to the renown of Marshall. He is a member of the Congregational church and of the Knights of Pythias and Royal Arcanum lodges.

By his first marriage Mr. Cook has one son, William W. Cook, Jr., who is now engaged in the mercantile business in Marshall in partnership with his father. Mr. Cook, Jr., is a young man of great business ability and has become an important factor in the business life of the city.

GUSTAV A. DENNIN (1882), Rock Lake township farmer and for thirty years a resident of Lyon county, was born in Germany August 27, 1872. His father, Charles Dennin, died in Germany, and his mother, Hannah Dennin, died in Dempster, South Dakota, where she had resided since coming to America in 1890.

Gustav came to America with an uncle, Gust Wendland, when a lad of ten years and resided with his uncle the next seven years, meanwhile going to school at Balaton and Tracy. At the age of seventeen he secured work with James Collins, manager of the Hunter & Able stock ranch in Murray county, and he held that position fourteen years. For about one year after that he was employed in the George Tate elevator at Balaton, returning to work for a few months on the Hunter & Able ranch in Murray county, and later working a few months in the employ of a butcher in New Ulm.

The subject of this sketch engaged in

farming for himself in the spring of 1903, having bought the southeast quarter of section 4, Rock Lake, in 1907. He now owns 210 acres on section 4, and his fine herd of Polled Angus cattle is among the best in the county. All Mr. Dennin's land is in a fine state of cultivation and he has prospered. He is a shareholder in the Farmers Elevator Company and the Farmers Co-operative Company of Balaton.

Gustav Dennin and Martha Baer were joined in the holy bonds of matrimony at Balaton on June 28, 1906. Mrs. Dennin is a native of Lyon county and was born August 28, 1887, her parents being Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Baer, of Lyons township. Mr. and Mrs. Gustav Dennin are the parents of three children, Erma, Arthur and Anna. The family are members of the German Lutheran church of Balaton.

CHRISTIAN M. DUUS (1904) is proprietor of the City Meat Market of Tracy. He is a native of Denmark and was born June 21, 1868. At eighteen years of age he came to America and located at Tyler, Lincoln county, Minnesota, where he conducted a meat market two years. He then went to Minneapolis, where he worked at his trade about thirteen years. Returning to Tyler he conducted a meat market until 1904.

In the latter year Mr. Duus came to Lyon county and located at Tracy, where he purchased the G. A. Hanson meat market, which he has since conducted. He handles all kinds of meats and canned goods and has one of the most up-to-date meat markets in Tracy, with all the latest improved machinery. Our subject is a member of the M. W. A. and A. O. U. W. lodges.

On December 5, 1895, at Minneapolis, occurred the marriage of Mr. Duus to Thoro Jacobson, a native of Indiana. Mr. and Mrs. Duus are the parents of the following children: Cecelia Lydia and Raymond.

The subject of this review is a son of Peter Hanson and Catherine Duus, both of whom are deceased. They were the parents of the following children: Hans, of Lincoln county; Peter, a retired farmer; Kristan, a retired farmer of Tyler; Lars H., of Tyler; Henry, of Pine county, Minnesota; Elsie, Annie and Mary, of Minneapolis.

CHARLES A. ILLIAN (1900) rents a large farm in Monroe township, having charge of the east half of section 16 and 200 acres on section 9, land belonging to J. A. Hunter.

Mr. Illian was born in Prussia August 14, 1844, being the son of Frederick William Illian and Louisa Illian. The mother died when Charles was a baby and the father died in 1858. When Charles was seven years old he came with his father to the United States and they settled in Scott county, Iowa, where the father died, and where our subject lived until May, 1864. In that month he enlisted in Company I, Forty-fourth Iowa Volunteer Infantry, and served until the following September, being detailed on skirmish duty and in guarding railways in Mississippi and Tennessee.

After the war our subject returned to Scott county and engaged in farming about six years; then he moved to Benton county, Iowa, where he farmed three years. While living in Benton county Mr. Illian was married, September 22, 1872, to Amelia Knaack, who was born in Prussia November 4, 1854. After their marriage the young couple went to Plymouth county, Iowa, where they lived on a farm until 1898, moving then to Redwood county, Minnesota, and farming two years in the vicinity of Walnut Grove. In 1900 Mr. Illian took charge of Mr. Hunter's farm in Monroe township, where he has remained.

Mr. and Mrs. Illian have eleven children living: Paulina (Mrs. Mons Larson) and Richard, of Amiret township; Otto, of O'Brien county, Iowa; Louis, Barnard and Olga (Mrs. Fred Miller), of Blackhawk county, Iowa; Oscar, of Waverly, Iowa; and Frank, Charles, Emilie and Arthur, at home. The oldest child, Fred, died at the age of thirteen months.

Mr. Illian while a resident of Benton county, Iowa, held the office of school director in his township.

AUGUST PETERSON (1890) is the proprietor of a hardware store in the city of Tracy. He was born in Sweden April 2, 1873, a son of Peter and Allan (Hawkinson) Anderson. The father died in 1911, and Mrs. Anderson resides in Sweden. They were the parents of seven children, as follows: Mrs. Rettig, of Denver, Colorado;

August and Henry, of Tracy; Vendla, of San Diego, California; Pete, Nels, Freda and Fritz, of Sweden.

August Peterson resided in the land of his birth until 1890, when he came to the United States and located in Lyon county. He has resided in the county almost continuously since that time. He spent one year in Minneapolis and farmed a year in Murray county, after which he moved to Tracy, and he has since lived there. He worked four years for Dr. Farrell, and then tended bar one and one-half years. Then, in company with John Lindeman, he started a saloon, which he conducted two years. Mr. Peterson spent some time as agent for the Standard Broom Company of Mankato, after which he again engaged in the saloon business for two years. On January 1, 1909, he purchased of H. E. McKenzie the hardware store he now conducts. He handles shelf and heavy hardware.

Mr. Peterson was married at Ruthton, Minnesota, August 2, 1901, to Selma Johnson. They are the parents of two children, Delpha and Bernetta.

Our subject was one of the organizers of the Tracy Garage Company (incorporated), which was established in 1910.

NELS P. JOHNSON (1892) is a farmer and land owner of Coon Creek township. He was born in Denmark October 27, 1863, a son of Jens and Margaret (Anderson) Olson. He grew to manhood and received his education in the land of his birth and when nineteen years old immigrated to America. He located in Cook county, Illinois, where he worked a short time in a stone quarry and six years on a dairy farm.

In 1892 Mr. Johnson came to Lyon county and rented land east of Russell four years. He then purchased 120 acres on section 36, Coon Creek township, which he still owns and operates. He raises considerable stock, including Durham cattle and Poland China and Duroc-Jersey hogs. Mr. Johnson is a member of the Masonic and Workmen lodges. He was chairman of the school board of district No. 92 six years and has served on the Township Board three years.

Mr. Johnson was married in Chicago July 10, 1888, to Marie J. Jergenson. She is a native of Denmark, a daughter of Nels and

Maria (Jacobson) Jergenson, and was born July 16, 1871. Mr. and Mrs. Johnson are the parents of the following named five children: Nils Alfred, born October 30, 1889; Louis J., born November 29, 1891; George C., born March 7, 1893; Cecilia M., born March 6, 1895; Etlar A., born April 9, 1902.

LOUIS VERMEERSCH (1892) is the proprietor of a pool hall in Ghent and is interested in different business enterprises. He is a stockholder of the First State Bank and of the Ghent Farmers Elevator Company. Mr. Vermeersch is a member of the Village Council, having served three years.

Our subject was born September 6, 1860, in Belgium. His parents, Peter and Coletta (De Bert) Vermeersch, are both dead. Louis was educated in the land of his birth and later worked at the shoemaker's trade in Belgium until 1892, when he immigrated to this country. Upon his arrival he located in Marshall, resided there six months, and then moved to Ghent, where he worked at various forms of labor until 1900. He then bought lots in Ghent and engaged in truck gardening, a pursuit to which he still gives some attention. During the last few years Mr. Vermeersch has also erected the building in which he conducts his pool hall and a comfortable residence in the village. He is a member of the Catholic church.

ANDREW KELSON (1903) is the proprietor of 160 acres of well-improved farm land, the southeast quarter of section 8, Custer township. He raises considerable stock and makes a specialty of Hereford cattle and Berkshire hogs. Mr. Kelson owns shares in the Farmers Elevator Companies of Garvin and Balaton.

Our subject was born in Denmark June 17, 1865, and at the age of six years went to live with an uncle, the boy's mother, Johanna C. (Sorenson) Kelson, having died. Andrew Kelson, the lad's father, died before Andrew was born. The youth was reared in his uncle's family and received his schooling in his native land. At the age of seventeen years he came to this country in company with a cousin, Engar Sorenson. The boys located at St. Mary's, Iroquois county, Illinois, where Andrew worked on a farm about

fifteen years, later renting land and farming for himself. The fall of 1903 found Mr. Kelson in Lyon county. He bought the land in Custer on which he has since resided.

Mr. Kelson's marriage to Mary E. Sorenson occurred at Kankakee, Illinois, February 27, 1888. She was born in Denmark September 26, 1869, and her mother, Annie Sorenson, is living at the age of seventy-three years. The father, Andrew Sorenson, died in 1899 in South Dakota. Four children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Kelson. They are James, born November 25, 1889; Alfred C., born September 21, 1891; Annie C., born March 4 1893; and Louise A., born June 12, 1897.

The Kelsons are members of the Lutheran church. Mr. Kelson is affiliated with the Modern Woodmen lodge.

JOHN M. ANDERSON (1891) is proprietor of the Liberty Lunch Room in Cottonwood, having purchased the business from Henry Hanson in May, 1907. He serves short orders and lunches and handles cigars, candies, ice cream and soft drinks. He has been enjoying a liberal patronage, owns his store building, and has a nice residence in the village. In May, 1912, he purchased T. Fossum's restaurant and moved to his new location June 1. He carries on the business under the old name.

Our subject was born in Crawford county, Wisconsin, January 2, 1877, and is a son of Magnus and Ingeborg Anderson, the former of whom is now a resident of Clarkfield, Minnesota, the latter having died at Cottonwood in May, 1903. John received his early education in Dakota and about four years of schooling in Lyon county after the family moved from Dakota and settled on a farm near Cottonwood.

From his eighteenth year until he attained his majority John worked on the farm and then hired out to Bolsted & Mero, liverymen of Cottonwood. He worked for that firm a while and later for George Anderson several years. He then engaged in the livery and dray business with his brother-in-law, Sam Olson, and at the end of six months bought his partner's interest in the dray line. He continued that business two and one-half years and then was

compelled by ill health to sell and cease active work. One year's rest found Mr. Anderson greatly improved and he engaged in the dairy business for a little over two years, after which he bought the Liberty Lunch Room and took charge.

John M. Anderson and Hulda Larson were married September 20, 1902, in Yellow Medicine county. The bride was born November 29, 1882, and is a daughter of Ole Larson, a Yellow Medicine county farmer. Mr. Anderson is a member of Silo Norwegian Lutheran Church of Cottonwood. He has served as a member of the Village Council of Cottonwood for the past two years.

PHILIP A. NELSON (1893) is the proprietor of a well-improved half section of land three and one-half miles north of Tracy, one of the best farms in Amiret township. Besides this place Mr. Nelson owns eighty acres of land in Redwood county. He raises Shorthorn cattle extensively and may well be proud of his stock.

Mr. Nelson was born in Nicollet county, Minnesota, July 5, 1869, and is a son of C. J. and Emily (Pierson) Nelson, natives of Sweden. His parents came to America in 1859 and remained in New York one year, where C. J. Nelson found employment. They then moved to Fillmore county, Minnesota, and after spending one year in that county settled in Nicollet county, where they had taken a homestead. It was during the family's ten year residence in that county that the subject of this sketch was born.

The Nelson family moved to Minneapolis from Nicollet county, and after one year's residence in that city they went to Redwood county, in 1873, and took pre-emption and tree claims. There Philip received his education, remaining at home until twenty-one years of age. He then bought eighty acres of railroad land in the county and started farming for himself, shortly after buying an additional eighty. After three years of farming our subject traded his quarter section for the southwest quarter of section 36, Amiret township, Lyon county, and has since acquired additional land.

Mr. Nelson was married in Redwood county December 31, 1895, to Anna Johnson. She was born in England September 7, 1871, and is a daughter of Thomas and Margaret (Charlton) Johnson, natives of England. The parents now reside in Amiret township. To Mr. and Mrs. Nelson three children have been born: William, born April 7, 1897, and Dorothy, born October 12, 1906.

FRED W. COPELAND (1874) is a painter and paperhanger of Marshall. He was born in Olmsted county, Minnesota, on October 22, 1868, a son of Dr. J. F. and Lydia (Crossman) Copeland, natives of Pennsylvania. She died in June, 1875; Mr. Copeland is a resident of Marshall. They were the parents of three children, as follows: J. L., Fred W. and Lydia A.

Fred came to Lyon county in 1874 and located at Marshall, where he has practically made his home since, receiving his education in the Marshall schools. In December, 1883, he commenced learning the trade of painter at St. Charles, Minnesota, where he resided a little less than three years. He also learned carriage and wagon painting while there. He then returned to Marshall and has since lived there, following his trade.

Mr. Copeland was married at Minneapolis on March 14, 1906, to Mabel Crane, a native of Canada.

OTTO M. KEEHL (1893) is a man who has seen a good deal of farm life and has become well acquainted with business life in the great American city. With experience in both he seems to prefer farming good Lyon county land, and he rents the southwest quarter of section 12, Rock Lake township.

Our subject was born in Germany May 14, 1876, and came with his parents to America in 1882. The family made their residence for some years in New York City, and there Otto received his early education in the public schools. In the fall of 1893 the family came to Lyon county, the father purchasing land in Rock Lake. Otto had preceded the family in the spring and worked on the farm of Charles Breen-

ing in Rock Lake one year. After his parents located in the county, the boy worked on the home farm three years and then returned to New York City and worked at the painter's trade one year. Then enlisting in the United States army, he served six years. During that time he was stationed in various parts of the world and was advanced to the office of first sergeant.

Resigning from the army, Mr. Keehl entered business life in New York, becoming agent for the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company and serving several months, later becoming assistant superintendent of the Staten Island and the Buskirk districts. For six months Mr. Keehl was home office inspector of the company. In March, 1912, our subject returned to Lyon county and rented the land which he now operates.

Otto Keehl and Margaret Schroeder were married in New York October 22, 1902. Mrs. Keehl, a native of New York City, was born November 18, 1876, and is a daughter of Julius and Magdalene Schroeder, the former of whom is dead and the latter a resident of New York. The Keehls have one child, Mabel Lillian, born August 24, 1903. They are members of the German Lutheran church of Balaton. Mr. Keehl's parents resided in Lyon county until 1899, in which year they returned East and are now residents of New Jersey.

D. M. KING (1895) has devoted almost his entire life to railroad work and for the past seventeen years has been agent of the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad Company at Marshall.

In Orleans county, New York, on September 20, 1857, D. M. King was born. He was brought up in that county and until he was past twenty-two years of age he lived on the farm. In the spring of 1880 he came West and for one year studied telegraphy in an office at Grand Rapids, Wisconsin. He was then assigned to the office at City Point, Wisconsin, and held the office until 1888. That year he entered the employ of the Northwestern, and until he moved to Marshall in 1895 he was agent at Stockton, Winona county, Minnesota.

Mr. King is a member of the Congrega-

tional church. He holds membership in the Blue Lodge, Chapter, Commandery and Eastern Star of the Masonic orders and in the Workmen and Royal Arcanum lodges.

Mattie M. Brooks became the wife of Mr. King at Oshkosh, Wisconsin, on September 20, 1882. She is a native of the city in which she was married. Mr. and Mrs. King have two children, Erna M. and Vera.

John and Mariah (Vessey) King were the parents of our subject. They came from England in 1853 and lived in Orleans county, New York, until their deaths. The other children of the family are John, of Seattle, Washington; Mrs. F. J. Ames, of Penn Yan, New York; Sarah, Jennie and Alice, all of Albion, New York.

DR. F. D. GRAY (1911), a physician and surgeon, is proprietor of the Marshall Hospital and also maintains a training school for nurses in connection, the latter branch having been opened in September, 1911.

Dr. Gray is a son of Robert J. and Elizabeth A. (Porteus) Gray, the former a native of Ireland and the latter of Pennsylvania, and was born at Lisbon, New York, April 4, 1870. He grew to manhood in the town in which he was born and was graduated from the Ogdensburg Free Academy and from the University of Michigan. He then went to Chicago and entered the Medical Department of Northwestern University, from which he was graduated in 1899. He was an interne at St. Joseph's Hospital, St. Paul, for a time and then opened a hospital at Vesta, Minnesota, which he conducted nine years.

In 1911 Dr. Gray located in Marshall and in March of that year he opened the hospital. This is one of the large medical institutions of Southwestern Minnesota and has met with marked success. It was opened through the solicitation of the business men and the Commercial Club of Marshall. The hospital has a forty-bed capacity and is modern in every respect, being one of the best equipped hospitals in the state. Three hundred operations were performed during the first year after the institution was opened.

At great expense Dr. Gray has had in-



DR. F. D. GRAY  
Proprietor of the Marshall Hospital.



THE MARSHALL HOSPITAL  
And Training School for Nurses.



R. B. DANIEL  
"The Corn Land Man," Marshall.



H. M. CLARK  
Secretary Lyon County Fair Association.



stalled a deep soft-water well, by drilling 250 feet. That supplies the hospital with all its water. An excellent system of fire protection has been installed, and every precaution has been taken to make the building as near fire-proof as possible. This, with the spacious grounds which surround the building, which is constructed of stone and brick, makes it very safe. Hot water heat, electric lights, elevator, and a modern operating room, make it an institution that Marshall and surrounding towns are proud of.

During his surgical career, Dr. Gray has operated on about three thousand patients. He holds membership in the county, state and national medical societies, and he is a member of the Masonic lodge.

On July 14, 1908, at Vesta, Minnesota, occurred the marriage of Dr. Gray to Nettie W. Urbach. They are the parents of two children, Elizabeth Anna and Robert Fred.

HORACE M. CLARK (1905), of Marshall, has been a resident of Lyon county only a few years, but during that time he has been prominently identified with the affairs of his city and county. The part he has played in local affairs during the seven years he has been in the county has resulted in good. His most noticeable achievement is that in connection with the Lyon County Fair Association, of which he has been secretary since 1910. To Mr. Clark and R. B. Daniel belongs much of the credit for putting the association on a paying basis and bringing the county fairs to their present high standard. Mr. Clark is richly entitled to biographical mention in this history of Lyon county.

The gentleman whose name heads this review was born in Burlington, Iowa, July 29, 1858. When the Civil War came on his father entered the Union Army and at the close of the war the family located in Washington, where the elder Clark held a government position. In the capital of the country Horace Clark spent his boyhood days and secured his primary education. In 1872 he accompanied the family to Wahoo Valley, Nebraska, where his parents homesteaded land and where our subject

resided practically all the time until coming to Lyon county in 1905.

Horace Clark matriculated in the University of Nebraska, but because of the ravages of the grasshoppers he was obliged to give up his studies and work to help support the family. He taught school several years in his home county and later engaged in farming and stock raising. He was successful and in time accumulated considerable land. He took an active part in politics and held several offices of trust, among them being auditor of Saunders county four years, assistant secretary of the Nebraska State Senate two terms, and superintendent of the State Industrial School for Girls from 1900 to 1905.

In 1905 Mr. Clark bought two farms in Fairview township, Lyon county, and since that date he has made his home in Marshall, devoting his time to their management and other duties. He is chairman of the Republican County Central Committee and is quite active in local politics. Mr. Clark holds membership in the Knights of Pythias, Workmen and Woodmen lodges.

At Mead, Nebraska, on March 3, 1880, occurred the marriage of Mr. Clark and Tilla Larson, she being a native of Sweden. Mr. and Mrs. Clark have six children, named as follows: Jessie, Henry, Helen, Arthur, Bernice and Thomas. Two children, Florence and Ruth, are deceased.

The parents of our subject were Thomas C. and Mary (Martin) Clark, both deceased. The former was born in Martinsville, Indiana, in 1831 and located in Burlington, Iowa, in 1834. During the War of the Rebellion he was chaplain of the Eighth Iowa Cavalry. Mrs. Clark was a native of England. The following five sons and one daughter constitute the children of this family: Horace M., William, Fred, Walter, Oscar and Lulu.

RICHARD B. DANIEL (1901), real estate dealer of Marshall, is a man who has been active in the affairs of his city and county during his eleven year residence here and one who has done much to advance the interests of his community. He has been a moving spirit in the county fair association and has assisted largely in making that popular institution a suc-

cess. Perhaps his greatest claim to distinction is the success he has met in the development of corn and the interest he has aroused in its culture. For the past ten years he has expended time and energy in that direction and he has a wide reputation all over the Middle West as the "Corn Land Man" among real estate men.

The subject of this review was born at Logan, Kentucky, November 23, 1860. When he was ten months of age the family moved to Macoupin county, Illinois, and there our subject grew to manhood and made his home until 1889. He received a good education and was graduated from the Valparaiso, Indiana, College with the class of 1888.

Mr. Daniel took up teaching as his profession and in 1889 he moved to Marble Rock, Iowa, and for two years was principal of the public schools there. Thereafter until 1901 he held like positions in the schools of Dows, Sanborn and Primghar, all in Iowa.

In 1901 Mr. Daniel became a resident of Marshall. He purchased the abstract business of L. D. Fosket, which had formerly been owned by the Lyon County National Bank, and conducted the business one year. On August 1, 1902, he entered into partnership with J. W. Humphrey and engaged in the real estate, insurance, loan and abstract business as the senior member of the firm of R. B. Daniel & Company. The partnership was dissolved in 1904 and since that date Mr. Daniel has conducted the business alone. He has met with success and has built up an enormous business.

In many lines of endeavor besides his personal business has Mr. Daniel been interested. He was one of the prime movers in the county fair organization and was made its first secretary. He resigned the office after two months' service but served again during the years 1906, 1907, 1908 and 1909 and he has since been assistant secretary. He served as alderman two terms and during his incumbency and largely through his instrumentality the city electric lighting plant was developed to its present efficiency.

Mr. Daniel holds membership in several worthy orders, among them the Blue Lodge, Chapter, Shrine and Eastern Star

of the Masonic orders and the Knights of Pythias. While a resident of Marble Rock, Iowa, he served as chancellor commander and he has been eminent commander of the Commandery at Marshall.

At Primghar, Iowa, on October 24, 1900, Mr. Daniel was united in marriage to Helen Seckerson, a native of Wisconsin and a former county superintendent of schools of O'Brien county, Iowa. She died May 3, 1904.

The second marriage of Mr. Daniel occurred at Marshall March 24, 1909, when he wedded Mrs. Hannah Olson, the widow of John G. Olson, a former clothing merchant of Marshall. By her first marriage Mrs. Daniel has one child, Agnes.

Our subject is a son of Addison N. and Mary F. (Brake) Daniel, both natives of Kentucky. The Daniel family is of Virginia stock and the Brake family were originally from North Carolina.

BOYD T. REESE (1900). One of the younger and progressive farmers of Lyon county is Boyd T. Reese, who owns and operates the southeast quarter of section 3, Lynd township. He engages in general farming and raises thoroughbred Shropshire sheep, Shorthorn cattle, Poland China hogs and Barred Plymouth Rock chickens. He has resided on his present place for the past twelve years.

Boyd Reese was born in Evansville, Wisconsin, December 3, 1878, a son of Edward and Jane (Swancutt) Reese, who still reside at Evansville. From the age of seven until fifteen our subject attended the country school near Evansville, later attended high school three years and the Evansville Seminary two years. He then worked for his father on the farm for about a year and also clerked and worked as a bookkeeper for some time in Evansville. In 1899, in company with R. L. Finn, Mr. Reese purchased the southeast quarter of section 3, Lynd township, and moved to the place the following year. In 1909 Mr. Reese purchased his partner's interest in the farm.

On January 21, 1900, Sophia Larson became the wife of our subject at Evansville, Wisconsin. She is the daughter of Louis and Lena (Gilbertson) Larson, of

Janesville, Wisconsin. Mr. and Mrs. Reese are the parents of the following named children: Warren, born October 27, 1901; Leroy, born March 25, 1904; Arthur, born October 17, 1908. One child died when eleven days old.

HALDOR G. JOHNSON (1902) is the junior member of the firm of Johnson & Son, general merchants of Minneota. He was born in Lincoln county, Minnesota, January 30, 1882, and grew to manhood on his father's farm in that county.

In 1903 our subject accompanied his parents to Minneota and entered the employ of G. A. Dalmann & Company. In 1908 he and his father purchased the business of Mr. Dalmann and have since conducted it under the firm name of Johnson & Son. Mr. Johnson is a member of the Masonic and Modern Woodmen lodges. He was a member of the Village Council in 1910 and is at present village recorder.

The subject of this review was married in Minneota June 14, 1911, to Martha L. Hognason, a native of Lyon county. She is a daughter of S. Hognason, a pioneer resident of the county.

The parents of our subject are Arngrim and Johanna Johnson, natives of Iceland. The father was born August 5, 1849, and came to the United States in 1876, locating in Westerheim township, Lyon county. He resided in that precinct one and one-half years and then moved to Lincoln county and homesteaded land in Royal township. He resided in Lincoln county until 1902. In the fall of the latter year he moved to Minneota and in 1903 bought an interest in the general store of G. A. Dalmann. The firm name was then changed to G. A. Dalmann & Company.

In February, 1908, Arngrim and Haldor Johnson purchased Mr. Dalmann's interest in the store, and the firm name was changed to Johnson & Son. They enlarged the store and carry a fine line of goods. Mr. Johnson was chairman of the Township Board of Supervisors in Limestone township and a member of the board of Royal township. He also was a member of the school board in Royal township. Mr. and Mrs. Johnson are the parents of

three children: John A., a farmer of Lincoln county; Haldor G. and Winnie J.

MATTHEW D. HAHN (1892) is a well-known farmer of Amiret township. He was born in Prusen, Germany, November 2, 1858, and is a son of Frank and Mary Hahn.

The parents of Matthew Hahn brought the boy to America when he was two and one-half years of age, and the family settled in Chicago, where the father worked at the carpenter's trade. Matthew was brought up in the city and was educated in the schools there. When eighteen years he enlisted in the United States army and served ten years. In 1886 he returned to Chicago and for six years was employed as a street car conductor.

It was in 1892 that Mr. Hahn came to Lyon county, having a short time before bought 200 acres of land on section 16, Amiret township. There he located and lived until the fall of 1905, when he sold his land and bought the south half of the southeast quarter of section 20, where he has since resided. Mr. Hahn is a successful farmer and is devoting much time to the raising of Red Polled cattle and Poland China hogs. His Barred Rock chickens and Toulouse geese are prize winners and he has taken several first prizes with them at county fairs and at the state fair. In his general farming Mr. Hahn is making a specialty of corn and vegetables. He received first premium on potatoes and vegetables at the state fair and several county fairs in 1911. He raised fifty-four bushels of Whimble Yellow Dent corn per acre, shelled net weight, in 1911.

In Chicago, Illinois, Matthew Hahn was married to Jane O'Rourke, the ceremony taking place January 16, 1885. His wife was born at Cedar Falls, Iowa, April 23, 1868, and is a daughter of Daniel and Ann (Conroy) O'Rourke, natives of Ireland. To Mr. and Mrs. Hahn have been born the following children: Mary K., born March 31, 1886; Clara, born December 16, 1889; Annie, born September 12, 1891; Matthew, born September 16, 1893; Timothy, born March 8, 1895; Frank, born December 16, 1897; Joseph, born October 4, 1899; John, born May 20, 1902; Thomas, born March

7, 1904; and William, born June 22, 1909.

Mr. Hahn is a member of the Minnesota Field Crop Breeders Association and is president of the Lyon County Corn Growers Association. He has been an active man in the affairs of the township and is a progressive farmer. Mr. Hahn's mother is still living in Chicago. Her husband died there in 1902.

L. P. SOUCY (1902) is the senior member of the firm of Marshall Furniture Company and is the manager of the company's store at Marshall. He is a native of Quebec, Canada, and was born November 25, 1867. When a baby he was taken to Manville, Rhode Island, and there he lived until twenty-two years of age. He then engaged in the undertaking business with a brother, Samuel, at Fall River, Massachusetts, and in 1892 he located in Minneapolis, Minnesota. After ten years spent in the undertaking business in the metropolis of Minnesota, in 1902 Mr. Soucy located in Marshall, where he has ever since resided.

Upon his arrival Mr. Soucy bought the Josh Goodwin stock of furniture, conducted the store three years, and then organized the Marshall Furniture Company. The company was incorporated May 1, 1908, by L. P. Soucy, Edward Birkner and Alfred Birkner. In August, 1910, the Birkner brothers sold their interests to Joseph Fisher and the officers of the company are now as follows: Joseph Fisher, president; Chris Rock, vice president; L. P. Soucy, secretary, treasurer and manager. Our subject has charge of the store and carries on the business. The store is one of the largest in the state outside of the Twin Cities. Large lines of household furniture, carpets, rugs, etc., are carried in stock. Undertaking parlors are also maintained.

Mr. Soucy was married at Minneapolis to Alice B. Garneau and to them have been born three children, Emile, Argerie and Blanch. Mr. Soucy is a member of the Yeomen, Knights of Columbus and Modern Woodmen lodges.

HENRY LEITCH (1890) farmed on rented land two or three years after coming to Lyon county, but for practically twenty

years he has resided continuously on the west half of the northeast quarter of section 36, Monroe township.

Our subject was born in North Ireland in the fall of 1850. His parents, James Leitch and Elizabeth Ann (Whiteford) Leitch, are no longer living. Henry lived in Ireland until 1872, receiving his education and helping with the farm work. Coming to the United States in 1872, he spent one year in Ohio and then moved to Winnebago county, Iowa, where he lived six years, working at farm labor. For several years thereafter he divided his time between Lyon and Blue Earth counties, in Minnesota, and in the vicinity of the town of Waseca, working on farms for the most part. In 1890 Mr. Leitch came to Lyon county, and after renting for about two years and a half he bought the land where he now resides and which he has greatly improved in late years.

Mr. Leitch was married December 28, 1898, in Monroe township, to Esther Wilson, a native of Canada. They are affiliated with the Methodist Episcopal church. Mr. Leitch has served on the township board, having been a member for three years.

HALVOR E. FINSETH (1898) is the senior member of the firm doing business as the Central Creamery Company of Tracy. He is a native Minnesotan and has spent a large part of his life in the creamery business.

Our subject was born in the township of Holton, Goodhue county, Minnesota, on March 17, 1867. He was educated in the public schools of Northfield and in a business college at Decorah, Iowa. At the age of nineteen years he went to Minneapolis and for the next few years was engaged in several different lines of business there, conducting a shoe store, dealing in real estate, and operating a small creamery. He was married in 1896 and the next year conducted the old home farm in Goodhue county.

In 1898 Mr. Finseth located in Tracy. For six months he was employed as butter-maker for the Success Creamery Company and during the following winter took the management of a creamery in Hawley

township, Murray county. After giving up the position in Tracy Mr. Finseth devoted his entire time to the management of the Murray county institution and conducted it three years. He then located in Willmar, managed the creamery of the Farmers Co-operative Creamery Company two years, and then bought that company's plant, organized a \$10,000 stock company, built a cold storage plant, combined the two enterprises, and then sold out. His next location was Early, Iowa, where he was in the machinery business a short time, and then spent a year and a half on the road for a cream separator company.

Mr. Finseth again became a resident of Tracy in 1906. The same year he organized the Central Creamery Company, bought a plant already established, and a year and a half later took in as a partner W. E. Westberg. The latter sold his interest in July, 1911, to John Klabunde, the butter-maker, and that gentleman and Mr. Finseth are now the proprietors. The firm manufactures butter and ice cream and deals in crushed fruits and soda fountain supplies.

In the city of Minneapolis, on June 26, 1896, Mr. Finseth was married to Alma C. Henderson. They have two children, Cora and Herbert.

Our subject is a son of Herbrand and Guri (Qui) Finseth. They were born in Norway but came to America in early life, in 1852 or 1853, and homesteaded in Goodhue county, Minnesota. The father died there in 1901; the mother still lives on the old homestead. There are five children in the family, named as follows: Halvor E., Mary, Emma, Knute and Anna.

An uncle of our subject, A. K. Finseth, who now lives a retired life in Goodhue county, has taken quite a prominent part in the political affairs of Minnesota. He served as a state senator six terms and served as state food commissioner, having been appointed by Governor Merriam.

WALTER R. CHITTENDEN (1880), of Marshall, is a native of the city in which he lives. He descends from an old colonial family with a Revolutionary War record. He is the son of pioneers of Lyon county,

A. C. and Agnes (Hill) Chittenden, who also reside in Marshall.

Walter was born May 6, 1880, and until he reached his majority resided in the city of his birth. His primary education was secured in the Marshall public schools, and it was supplemented with a one year course in Ames College and a two years' course in Kearney Military Academy, of Kearney, Nebraska. At the age of twenty-one years he went to Oliver county, North Dakota, took a homestead, resided on the place two years, and commuted.

After obtaining title to his land Mr. Chittenden located in Ritzville, Washington, and during the next four years was a member of the firm of Chittenden Brothers, grocery dealers. He sold his interests in the store and located in Canby, Minnesota. There he engaged in the mercantile business two years and at Gary, South Dakota, two years. Mr. Chittenden then returned to Marshall and has since been associated with his father in the real estate business. He is a member of the Masonic, Elks and Modern Woodmen lodges.

Walter Chittenden was married at Spokane, Washington, June 5, 1906, to Louise M. Dawell, a native of Sprague, Washington, and a daughter of August and Hannah Dawell, of that place. Mr. and Mrs. Chittenden have one child, Rodney D., born November 1, 1909.

OLE PAULSON (1891), Coon Creek township farmer, was born in Denmark June 15, 1860. His parents are Paul and Annie (Matson) Jenson. He received his early schooling in Denmark and worked at farm labor until twenty-five years of age, when he came to the United States. He located in Shelby county, Iowa, where he worked at farm labor two years. He then moved to Le Sueur county, Minnesota, near St. Peter, where he worked in the stone quarries and on the railroad four years, after which he came to Lyon county.

Prior to his arrival to Lyon county in 1891 Mr. Paulson had purchased the east half of the northeast quarter of section 32, Coon Creek township. That property he later sold and purchased the land he now owns and operates, the northeast quarter of section 29, of the same township. He

has made all the improvements on the place and has a fine farm. When Mr. Paulson came to Lyon county he had two cows, one pair of oxen, a wagon, fifty dollars cash and had \$140 paid down on his eighty acre tract. He holds stock in the Lyon County Co-operative Store Company of Russell and is a director of school district No. 76. He holds membership in the Modern Woodmen and Danish Brotherhood of America lodges.

Mr. Paulson was married at Avoca, Iowa, on May 28, 1885, to Mary Nelson, a native of Denmark. She is a daughter of Nels and Johanna (Christenson) Mortenson and was born July 20, 1862. Mr. and Mrs. Paulson are the parents of the following named six children: Katie, born July 21, 1889; Charles J., born March 10, 1891; Chris P. and Fred M. (twins), born March 2, 1894; George W., born April 1, 1902; Magdaline, born November 1, 1903.

GEORGE GEIWITZ (1898) is the proprietor of one of the leading hardware and implement stores of Minneota and is one of the progressive citizens of that thriving town, where he has resided since 1898. He is a native of the state, having been born in Houston county August 13, 1857, where he lived until twenty-one years of age. He then moved to Lincoln county, Minnesota, and homesteaded in Limestone township, where he resided until June 6, 1898.

That year Mr. Geiwitz moved to Minneota and bought a half interest in the Peter Ferguson hardware store. The business was run under the firm name of Ferguson & Geiwitz one and a half years, when Mr. Geiwitz bought his partner's interest and ran the business two years. He then sold a half interest to Dahl & Deen, and the firm name became Geiwitz & Company. During their regime, in 1902, the present large business block was erected. The main part is 40x75 feet, with a south front of 60x50 feet, and is one of the largest store buildings of the kind in the county. In 1908 Mr. Geiwitz bought the interests of his partners and took into the business his son, John G. Geiwitz. The firm is now styled Geiwitz & Son. The firm deals extensively in hardware, implements, automobiles, wagons and buggies.

Mr. Geiwitz is the son of George and

Walberga Geiwitz, both natives of Germany, who came to the United States in 1848.

Our subject was married at La Crosse, Wisconsin, March 24, 1885, to Sophia Gassert, who was born in Houston county, Minnesota. They have eight children, namely: Sarah (Mrs. O. H. Werpy), of Minneota; Edward, of British Columbia; John, of Minneota; Dora and Cora (twins), Fritz, Peter and Priscilla.

Mr. Geiwitz is a member of the M. W. A. lodge. He was a member of the Village Council one year.

ADOLPH B. LARSON (1887) is manager of the Christianson-Innes lumber yard at Florence. He is a native of Minnesota and was born in Fillmore county March 9, 1879, a son of Borce and Carrie (Christianson) Larson. The parents came to the United States from Norway in the early sixties and settled in Fillmore county, where they resided until 1878, when they came to Lyon county. In 1910 they retired from farm life and moved to Florence to live. They have six children, as follows: Louise (Mrs. Lars Ordlock), of Florence; Adolph B., of this sketch; Carl, of Lyon county; Lena (Mrs. G. A. Ofstad), of Florence; Anton, the postmaster of Florence; and Clara, of Florence.

The man whose name heads this sketch made his home with his parents in Shelburne township and attended school until sixteen years of age. He then started hustling for himself, working at farm labor and threshing. When twenty-one years of age he engaged in the general merchandise business at Ruthton and continued that business three years. He then farmed the home place several years and in 1908 entered the employ of the Christianson-Innes Lumber Company at Florence as local manager. He is a member of the Masonic lodge and a director of the State Bank of Florence. Mr. Larson is a justice of the peace and was assessor of Shelburne township in 1908.

October 14, 1908, Mr. Larson was married to Miss Ida E. Green, a native of Lyon county and a daughter of C. F. Green, one of the older residents of the county, formerly owner of the lumber yards of which

our subject now has charge. Mr. and Mrs. Larson are the parents of two children, Wyvil B. and a baby boy.

OLAUS M. LARSON (1901) is manager of the Farmers Elevator Company at Lynd. He also handles farm machinery and vehicles in connection with his elevator work. Mr. Larson was born at Deerfield, Wisconsin, November 4, 1871, where he received his early education and assisted his brothers on the farm. He also taught school for three years. His mother died when he was a young man. Olaus received a high school education.

In 1901 Olaus Larson located in Lynd and a while later went to Muskoda, where he bought grain for the Federal Elevator Company. He also bought grain for the same company at Portland. He returned to Lynd in 1904 and purchased grain for the New London Milling Company two years, then went to Hereford, Minnesota, and bought grain for the Federal Company. He also engaged in the same work one year at Bird Island, Minnesota, for the Columbian Elevator Company, and at Maynard one year for the Northwestern Elevator Company. Mr. Larson again took up his residence in Lynd in 1909 and has since managed the farmers' elevator there.

The Lynd Farmers Elevator Company was incorporated in 1909, organized by about seventy-five farmers of the vicinity. They purchased the Northwestern Elevator Company's building, with a capacity of 30,000 bushels. They handle grain, coal and feed. The following are the officers: President, E. E. Davis; vice president, Peter Frahm; treasurer, A. A. Sharratt; secretary, Frank Harris; manager, O. M. Larson. The following are directors: Frank Graves, Let Foster, George Madden, Frank Harris, A. A. Sharratt, Peter Frahm, E. E. Davis.

Our subject was married at Lynd on February 8, 1905, to Belle Robertson, a native of Illinois. They have three children: Geraldine R., Wilber B. and Reolf E.

Mr. Larson is a son of Gullick and Anna (Brennberg) Larson, natives of Norway and early settlers of Deerfield, Wisconsin, where they both died. They have eight children surviving them: Martha, Lewis, John, Andrew, Nels, Dora, Albert and Olaus.

ALBERT VOLK (1889) is a dealer in electric supplies in the city of Marshall, and has been chief of the Marshall Fire Department the past sixteen years. Albert was born at St. Peter, Minnesota, January 24, 1870, and received his education and grew to manhood in that city. He was a schoolmate of the late Governor John A. Johnson. When a young lad he learned the cigar-maker's trade and worked at it in St. Peter until 1889.

In the last named year, in company with another young man, Herman Walter, Mr. Volk came to Marshall and started a cigar factory. They had worked together in St. Peter and their object was to better their conditions. The firm name was Volk & Walter, and they continued in partnership until 1908, when our subject sold his interest in the factory. At the same time he purchased the electric supply department of the city of Marshall and has since conducted that business. His work consists in installing electric lights, motors and domestic appliances. He employs several men and carries a large stock of electrical supplies, electric glassware, electric heating devices and motors. Mr. Volk was a member of the City Council during 1904 and 1905. He is a member of the Catholic church.

Albert Volk is the son of Rudolph and Louise (Lahnus) Volk, natives of Baden, Germany. They came to the United States when young and were married in Cincinnati, Ohio, moving to St. Peter in 1868. Rudolph Volk was engaged in running a cooper shop for a number of years. He died March 20, 1910. Mrs. Volk died March 24, 1911. They were the parents of three children: Albert, of this sketch; Charles Volk, of the firm of Danby & Volk, cigar manufacturers; Lena (Mrs. William Balsted), of Minneapolis.

GUY H. KIEL (1890) is the proprietor of a grocery, crockery and china store in Marshall and has resided in Lyon county since he was four years of age. He is a native of Lafayette county, Wisconsin, and was born October 1, 1886. He is one of a family of eight children born to Milton C. and Mary A. (Hatfield) Kiel, now residents of Marshall. The other children of the

family are Abner, Robert, Orion K., John, Willie, Annie and Prudence.

The Kiel family came to Lyon county in 1890 and Guy resided on the Lynd township home farm until a young man. He was graduated from the Marshall High School in 1906. During the next year he clerked in grocery stores in Marshall and in a china and crockery store at Watertown, South Dakota. He returned to Marshall in 1907 and opened the store which he has since conducted. Mr. Kiel is a member of the Elks lodge.

The marriage of our subject to Alice Whistler, of Watertown, South Dakota, occurred June 16, 1908.

CHRISTINE HANSON (1885) owns and lives on a well-improved 120-acre farm on section 16, Nordland township. Miss Hanson does not farm the land but has a tenant on the place.

She was born in Lyon county June 8, 1885, a daughter of the late Robert and Ellen (Olson) Hanson. Her parents were early settlers of the county and homesteaders of Nordland township. Miss Hanson attended the district school until seventeen years of age and resided on the farm with her parents until the fall of 1905. Her parents then moved to Minneota, where they resided until their deaths. She spent eighteen months in Logan county, North Dakota, keeping house for her brother on a claim. She returned to her native county in November, 1908, and in March, 1911, she located on her present farm. She became part owner of the property in 1909 and sole owner in the spring of 1912. Miss Hanson is a member of the Norwegian Lutheran church of Minneota.

L. M. LERWICK (1910) is cashier of the First National Bank of Minneota and is one of the substantial and popular citizens of that prosperous village. He was born in Norway on July 18, 1862, and in 1868 he came to America. With his parents he located in Fillmore county, Minnesota, and two years later moved to Otter Tail county, Minnesota, where he grew to manhood. After an academic education, he taught school for eight years.

In 1890 Mr. Lerwick took up his residence in Madison, Minnesota, and began his banking career. He entered the Lac qui Parle County Bank and remained with that institution three years. He then moved to Canby, Minnesota, and was connected with the Bank of Canby until 1900, when he moved to Hendricks and organized the Lincoln County State Bank, which was changed into a national bank two years later. He remained at Hendricks until 1909, when he left Minnesota and took up his residence in Morgan Hill, California. There he bought orchard lands and engaged in fruit cultivation. In July, 1910, he returned to Minnesota to accept the position of cashier of the First National Bank of Minneota, a position he has since held.

Mr. Lerwick was married at Sheffield, Iowa, December 30, 1900, to Emma Treganza, who is a native of Linden, Wisconsin.

The subject of this review is the son of Iver and Rebecca (Johnson) Lerwick, natives of Norway, both of whom are dead. They have two sons living, Olie, of Dalton, Minnesota, and L. M., of this sketch; and two daughters, Hannah Olufson and Margaretha Swenson, both of Canby.

Mr. Lerwick is a member of the Blue Lodge and Scottish Rite bodies of Masonry, the Mystic Shrine, Odd Fellows and M. W. A. lodges. While a resident of Lincoln county he was chairman of the Republican County Central Committee.

CHARLES R. ANDERSON (1903) is the proprietor of a harness shop and shoe store at Balaton, where he has resided nine years. He was born in Sleepy Eye, Minnesota, on October 16, 1882. The parents of our subject were Jens P. and Johanna (Nyberg) Anderson, the former a native of Denmark and the latter of Sweden. They settled in Sleepy Eye, where Mr. Anderson died in 1885. To this union were born two children: Charles R., of this sketch, and Frank R., of Minneapolis. After her husband's death Mrs. Anderson married H. A. Hanson, and to that union were born the following children: Louise E. (Mrs. Jens Jensen), of Sleepy Eye; Hulda C., Ferdina C. M. Hanson, of Canby.

Charles Anderson made his home with his parents at Sleepy Eye until twelve years of age, when he entered a harness shop in that village and learned the trade. For several years he worked at various places at his trade and other occupations. In May, 1903, he moved to Balaton and entered the employ of N. H. Wahlgren as a harnessmaker. In January, 1908, he purchased the business and stock of Mr. Wahlgren. He conducts a harness and repair shop and deals in shoes. He is a member of the Modern Woodmen and Royal Neighbors lodges and of the Balaton Fire Department.

Mr. Anderson was married at Balaton October 24, 1907, to Anna Griesse, a native of Germany and a daughter of Albert Griesse. Mr. and Mrs. Anderson are the parents of two children, Leona J. and Willard C.

JOE R. McELVAIN (1892) is superintendent of the Tracy Electric Light and Waterworks plant, a position he has held since 1905. He has been a resident of Tracy since 1892.

Mr. McElvain's parents were James and Sarah (Purcell) McElvain, the former a native of Illinois and the latter of Tennessee. They settled in Nebraska in 1858 and farmed in that state until 1863, when they moved to Worth county, Missouri. Their next move was to Idaho in 1877, where Mrs. McElvain died the following year; then her husband returned to Missouri, where he died. There are seven living children in the family: John, of Missouri; Joe R., of this sketch; Commodore B., of Colorado; Andrew, of North Dakota; Ida M. Fouts, of Allendale, Missouri; and Elmer, of West Virginia.

The subject of this review was born near Humbolt, Richardson county, Nebraska, on January 27, 1861, and when he was three years of age the family moved to Worth county, Missouri. There Joe resided with his parents until attaining the age of seventeen years; then he went to Idaho and remained two years. Returning to his old home in Missouri, he remained only a few months and then took up his residence in his native state, where he resided until 1892. During that time he engaged in farming five years, was in the well-drilling business two years, and worked at various other occupations.

In 1892 Mr. McElvain located in Tracy and entered the railroad shops of the Northwestern Railroad Company, and for the next ten years he was employed as a machinist and engineer. In 1902 he was employed by the city as an engineer of the municipal electric light and waterworks plant. He served as engineer three years and was then promoted to the superintendency and has since satisfactorily served the city in that capacity.

The plant was built by the city in 1892 and the original plant is still operated by the city. The present capacity is two boilers of 350 horsepower and American ball engines, one of 120 and one of sixty horsepower. An all-day electric light service is maintained.

Mr. McElvain was married in Fullerton, Nebraska, November 7, 1883, to Charlotte A. Gress, a native of Illinois. They have six children, as follows: Ned O., assistant postmaster of Webster, South Dakota; Mary J., of Seattle, Washington; Mary, Jay, Floyd and Robert. Mr. McElvain is a member of the Workmen and Modern Brotherhood lodges.

MATHEW HENNEN (1883) is one of the successful farmers and large land owners of Westerheim township. His home place is the southeast quarter of section 21 and he is owner of 520 acres of land on that section and on 27. He has lived in the county since he was a child.

Mathew Hennen was born in Holland November 9, 1878. He came to the United States with his parents in 1883, and for a few months the family lived in the village of Ghent. The next four and one-half years were passed in Wisconsin, but in 1888 the family returned to Lyon county and have since been residents of Westerheim township. They located on the northeast quarter of section 21 in 1892, and on that farm Mathew worked until his marriage in 1906.

After his marriage Mr. Hennen moved to the farm which he has ever since operated. He made all the improvements now on the farm, has prospered, and added to his holdings until he is now the owner of nearly a section of land. Mr. Hennen is a stockholder and director of the Farmers Elevator Company of Ghent. He has been township

treasurer the past five years, is a member of the Catholic church of Ghent, and belongs to the Knights of Columbus order.

Mathew Hennen is a son of Arnold and Helena Hennen. His mother died in 1904; his father makes his home with a daughter, Mrs. Anton Van Uden. Four children of the family are living: Leo, of Westerheim township; John, of Marshall; Marie (Mrs. Anton Van Uden), of Westerheim; and Mathew, of this review. The oldest child, Joseph, died June 20, 1903, at the age of thirty-five years. Caroline, the wife of Theodore Jensen, of Marshall, died in March, 1907. Hubert died April 1, 1902.

Amelia Engels became the wife of Mr. Hennen on September 12, 1906. She was born in Henry county, Illinois, February 21, 1882, and has lived in the county since she was one year of age. She is the daughter of Mrs. Ludovica Engels, of the same township. The following named three children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Hennen: Arnold Hubert, born October 22, 1907; Marie Caroline, born June 29, 1909; and Alice Saraphine, born June 12, 1911.

CARL R. HOLDEN (1896) is the senior member of the firm of hardware dealers, Holden & Hughes, of Garvin. He was born in Goodhue county, Minnesota, April 11, 1872. A few years after his birth he accompanied his parents to Murray county, and until 1896 he made his home on his father's homestead in Lake Sarah township.

In the year last mentioned Mr. Holden set out in life for himself. He farmed one year in Custer township, Lyon county, and then located in Garvin. For a number of years he engaged in the well drilling business and in 1902 formed a partnership with Richard T. Hughes and established the present business. Holden & Hughes carry a complete line of hardware, gas engines, paints, oils, etc.

Mr. Holden was clerk of Custer township a number of years, succeeding A. G. Bumford to that position. He is a member of the local school board and belongs to the M. W. A. lodge.

In Garvin, on December 17, 1896, Mr. Holden was united in marriage to Anna Bredeveien, a native of Fillmore county,

Minnesota. Herman, Clarence and Marvin are the names of their children.

Carl Holden's parents are John J. and Karen (Peterson) Holden. They were born in Norway and were married at Madison, Wisconsin. Later they moved to Dodge county, Minnesota, and in the late seventies homesteaded land in Lake Sarah township, Murray county, where they still reside. Their children are Sophia Jacobson, Julius, Carl R., Charlotte Brown, Anna Halstensrud, John J., Jr., and Matilda Norwood.

CHARLES SCHMITZ (1896) is the proprietor of the Klondike saloon at Marshall and the leader of the Schmitz orchestra. He was born October 4, 1869, on the island on which is located the Statue of Liberty, New York. The father, who was a United States soldier, was living on the island with his family at the time of the birth of our subject. The elder Mr. Schmitz served twenty-nine years in the army, commencing his military career at the beginning of the Civil War. He was killed in 1885 at Caldwell, Kansas. He was a German by birth and was married to Tressie Schmitz, a native of Hoboken, New Jersey.

The childhood days of Charles Schmitz were spent at various army posts. The family resided at Atlanta, Georgia, for a time and later were in Montana. From 1879 to 1885 the father was stationed at El Reno, Indian Territory. Young Schmitz secured his education at the various army posts and when a boy began making his own living. When a young man he took up circus work, and for several years was with Barnum & Bailey's and Lemon Brothers' shows. While with the last named, in 1896, the circus played at Tracy. There Mr. Schmitz left the show to become a permanent resident of Lyon county.

For a few years Mr. Schmitz conducted the Van Dusen elevator at Tracy and for two years conducted a restaurant in the same city. The next three years he was in Walnut Grove, Redwood county, where he was engaged in the hotel and restaurant business. During his residence in Walnut Grove he served as deputy sheriff and village marshal for three and one-half years. In 1903 Mr. Schmitz became a resident of Marshall. For a little over four years he

was landlord of the Duluth Hotel and then he became the proprietor of the Klondike saloon, taking charge on January 15, 1908.

Besides his saloon business Mr. Schmitz conducts the Schmitz family orchestra, which is noted over a large territory. Mr. Schmitz plays the clarinet, his daughter, Lilly, the piano, his son, Charles A., the violin, and John Johnson, the trombone.

At Tracy, Minnesota, on September 30, 1898, Mr. Schmitz was married to Ida Schumacher, the daughter of Martin Schumacher, proprietor of a Tracy hotel. Mr. and Mrs. Schmitz have three children: Lilly, Esther and Charles.

CHARLES E. BLAKE (1887) is one of Grandview township's young farmers. While a young man, Mr. Blake is making a success of farming and has prospered since renting his place, the northeast quarter of section 13.

The subject of this review was born June 15, 1887, in Fairview township, Lyon county, Minnesota, and is a son of Richard and Mary (Versnick) Blake. His parents were pioneer residents of the county, having come to America from their native countries of Ireland and Belgium, respectively. They located in Lyon county in 1873 and now live in Lake Marshall township.

Charles received his early education in the country school and later attended the Marshall High School one year. He then spent several months in the Marshall Business College, concluding his scholastic career at the age of seventeen years. The boy then worked for his father on the home farm and later worked one year at tiling. His first experience at farming for himself came in 1911, when he conducted his father's place one year. Since that time he has been conducting the farm which he rents in Grandview township.

The marriage of Mr. Blake to Josephine Grandpre occurred in Marshall November 15, 1910. She is a native of Fowler, Indiana, and is a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Victor Grandpre, residents of Fairview township. To Mr. and Mrs. Blake was born one child, Mary Louise Vina, who died February 8, 1912, only a few days after its birth.

Charles E. Blake is one of thirteen children born to Mr. and Mrs. Richard Blake.

The others are Sylvester, Richard, Margaret, Elizabeth, Irene, William, Leonard, Edward and Vincent, all at home; James, a student of civil engineering at Ames, Iowa; John, a Sodus township farmer; and Mary (Mrs. William Flaig), of Sanborn, Minnesota. Our subject is a member of the Catholic church and is fraternally allied with the Modern Woodmen lodge.

F. M. BIRKENMEYER (1910) is the manager of the F. M. Birkenmeyer & Company general merchandise store at Marshall. He was born at La Crosse, Wisconsin, April 21, 1866. At the age of seventeen years he moved to Redwood Falls, Minnesota, and was employed in general merchandise stores there until 1905, for seventeen years of that time in the employ of one firm, Francois & Schmahl, the latter of whom is now his partner. In 1905 Mr. Birkenmeyer went to Montezuma, Iowa, and was manager of the H. G. Moore & Company store for nearly five years.

In December, 1910, Mr. Birkenmeyer located in Marshall and in partnership with H. G. Schmahl, of Redwood Falls, bought the general merchandise stock of John M. Hollo, in the Messenger Block. The firm of F. M. Birkenmeyer & Company deals in dry goods, shoes, ladies' ready-to-wear garments and groceries. Mr. Birkenmeyer is a member of the Masonic and Workmen lodges.

In Redwood Falls, on April 21, 1893, Mr. Birkenmeyer was united in marriage to Rose Lichlwarck, a native of New Ulm, Minnesota, and for a number of years a resident of Redwood Falls. They have three children: Hazel, Frank and Helen.

OLE PEDERSEN (1897) is a farmer and land owner of Clifton township and has lived in Lyon county fifteen years. He was born in Denmark July 1, 1858, and his native land was his home until he was twenty-three years of age.

Upon his arrival to the New World, Ole Pedersen located in Grundy county, Iowa, and worked at farm labor two years. The next two years were spent working in the paper mills at Neenah, Wisconsin, after which he went to Brule county, South Dakota, and took a homestead claim. After

proving up on the claim Mr. Pedersen returned to Wisconsin, bought a forty-acre tract of timber land in Clark county, farmed it two years, and then sold.

Our subject came to Lyon county in 1897, farmed rented land in Lake Marshall and Clifton townships until 1905, and then purchased his present farm, the southeast quarter of section 25, Clifton. He raises stock quite extensively and is a shareholder of the Farmers Elevator Company of Milroy.

Mr. Pedersen was married in Iowa September 28, 1882, to Bertha Katarie. She was born in Denmark June 16, 1864, the daughter of Nels and Anna C. (Jensen) Nelson. To Mr. and Mrs. Pedersen have been born thirteen children, as follows: N. Frederick, born August 2, 1883; Emelia M., born February 20, 1885; Anna S., born October 19, 1886; Christ, born August 21, 1888; Lorine C., born January 24, 1890; William, born January 20, 1892; Andrew, born March 12, 1894; died July 3, 1899; Tovil, born November 26, 1896; Albert, born May 5, 1899; Clara E., born August 21, 1901; Sarah B., born February 8, 1905; Harold, born June 28, 1907; Gladys H., born October 17, 1908.

J. A. LAWRENCE (1910), furniture dealer of Marshall, spent almost his entire life in Kankakee county, Illinois, moving from that county to Marshall early in 1910. His parents were Louis and Louise (Martin) Lawrence, who were born in Canada but who located in Kankakee county, Illinois, in the early forties and engaged in farming. The father went to California during the early gold excitement and made enough money to purchase a farm in his old home. He died there in 1898; the mother died two years later.

On the farm in Kankakee county our subject was born July 18, 1859, and he made his home with his parents until twenty-eight years of age. Then for nine years he engaged in farming on his own account, after which he resided with his mother at Bourbonnais, Illinois, until her death on April 12, 1900. Mr. Lawrence then engaged in the undertaking business at Bourbonnais until his removal to Marshall February 26, 1910. He purchased a building at that time and has since been engaged in the undertaking business, dealing in furniture and musical

instruments. Besides his city property Mr. Lawrence owns a half of section 16, Vallers township, which he purchased about ten years ago.

In Wilmington, Illinois, on May 24, 1889, Mr. Lawrence was united in marriage to Jennie Murphy. She was born in Wilmington and died eighteen months after her marriage, leaving one child, Neil Lawrence. The second marriage of our subject occurred in August, 1902, when he wedded Albina Brosseau, a native of Bourbonnais, Illinois. Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence have one child, Pearl.

ALBERT O. REINKE (1904), proprietor of the southeast quarter of section 10, Rock Lake, is one of the well-to-do farmers of the township. He raises stock and ships to the St. Paul and Omaha markets. Mr. Reinke is a shareholder of the Farmers Elevator Company of Balaton.

Our subject was born in Green Lake county, Wisconsin, August 2, 1862. His parents, Carl and Wilhelmina (Miller) Reinke, both of whom are now deceased, were for many years farmers in Wisconsin. Albert received his education in Wisconsin and worked on his brother's farm until he attained the age of fifteen years. He then worked on his father's farm until 1889. In the spring of that year Albert came to Minnesota and located in Murray county, buying land and residing there until 1904.

Mr. Reinke sold his Murray county farm in 1904 and immediately resumed farming on land which he had purchased in Lyon county, and on which he has since lived. Since moving here he has taken an active interest in affairs of the township and is a progressive member of the community. He has been treasurer of school district No. 40 four years. Mr. Reinke is allied with the German Lutheran church of Balaton.

January 26, 1893, at Tracy, Minnesota, occurred the wedding of Albert Reinke and Minnie Giese, a native of Germany. Mrs. Reinke was born November 13, 1872, and her parents, Charles and Frederica (Mellenthin) Giese, settled in Murray county in 1881, where they have since resided. Mr. and Mrs. Albert Reinke have the following children, all at home with their parents:

Bernhart, Paul, Henry, Gerald, Elsie, Ernest, Pearl and Elmer.

REV. OLAF GULLERUD (1906) has for the past five and a half years been pastor of Zion Norwegian Evangelical Lutheran Church of Tracy. In addition he supplies Holand Norwegian Evangelical Lutheran Church, near Tracy.

Olaf Gullerud's parents were natives of Norway who came to America and settled in Goodhue county, Minnesota. The father, Michael Gullerud, died in the fall of 1902 and the mother, Karen (Lunde) Gullerud, still lives on the old home farm in Goodhue county. Olaf was born on the parental farm near Zumbrota June 19, 1876. He received a common school education, attending until the age of sixteen. Then he spent a year each at the well known Luther College of Decorah, Iowa, and at Valder's Business College.

It was the boy's ambition to enter the ministry, and the next few years of his life were spent with that end in view. A year of work on his father's farm and a year spent as clerk in a St. Paul store furnished the means for a course in the Luther Normal School of Sioux Falls, South Dakota, from which Olaf was graduated in June, 1902. After one year's teaching at Cashton, Wisconsin, the subject of our sketch at last realized his hope of attending Luther Theological Seminary at St. Paul, from which he was graduated in 1906. At his graduation a call from the charge which he now occupies was awaiting him. He accepted the call and moved to Tracy in the fall of that year.

Just previous to taking up his pastoral labors in Tracy Rev. Gullerud was married, September 12, 1906, to Sarah Tyssen, a native of Iowa and a daughter of Knute K. and Anna Tyssen, residents of that state. Rev. and Mrs. Gullerud have a son, Karl Monrad, born May 6, 1908, and a daughter, Adele Kristine, born February 15, 1910. Our subject has two brothers, John Melven and Hans Peter, living on the old Goodhue county farm, and one sister, Mary (Mrs. Rognlie), of Franklin, Minnesota.

SIGURDUR M. ASKDAL (1882), a successful farmer of Westerheim township, was

born in Iceland November 12, 1862. When he was five years old his mother died and after the age of ten years he made his home with a minister, by whom he was educated.

In 1882 young Askdal came to America and after living in Duluth three weeks he located in Minneota. There he resided ten years, working at the carpenter's trade. He bought his 160-acre farm on section 5, Westerheim, in 1892. At that time not a furrow had been turned on the land, it had no improvements, and he paid the railroad company eleven dollars per acre for it. He set out the grove and erected the buildings on it and now has a fine farm. Mr. Askdal breeds thoroughbred Duroc-Jersey hogs and Shropshire sheep and feeds hogs for the market.

The father of our subject, Sigurbjorn Christianson, lives in Yellow Medicine county; his mother, Oddny (Sigurdordottir) Christianson, died in Iceland in 1867. Besides our subject are two other children: Sigurbjorn, a Minneota butcher, and Ellen Horsford. Mr. Christianson was married a second time, to Willborg Einarson, and they have three children, Runa, Jona and Margaret.

Sigurdur Askdal was married at Granite Falls October 14, 1892, to Finna Gunlaugson. She was born in Iceland and came to the United States in 1879. They have four children: Sigurd M., Haraldur M. S., Lilly O. S. and Jonas S. E.

Mr. Askdal is a firm believer in education and is giving his children the advantage of village schooling. For this purpose he maintains a residence in Minneota, where his family resides during the school months. Two of his sons attend the Minneota High School and the daughter is through the second grade.

For twenty-four years Mr. Askdal has been a Mason and he now holds membership in both the Blue Lodge and the Chapter. In 1908 he was master of Equity Lodge No. 238, Minneota. For fifteen years he served as clerk of school district No. 80.

ALEXANDER J. LORD (1883) is a resident of Ghent and devotes his time to threshing, machine work and engineering. He is a native of Illinois and was born in Kankakee April 18, 1877. In 1883 he accom-

panied his parents to Lyon county, locating on the father's farm in Grandview township. He resided with his parents on the farm for fifteen years, when he commenced threshing, and he has continued in that line of work since.

The parents of our subject are Edmund and Angeline (Paradis) Lord, natives of Canada who came to Illinois when children and were married there. They came to Lyon county in 1883 and resided on their farm in Grandview township until 1905, when they moved to Marshall to reside. Mr. Lord died January 9, 1903; Mrs. Lord resides in Marshall. They were the parents of four children, as follows: George, of Marshall; Alexander J., of this sketch; Mrs. Lizzie Ryan, of Minneapolis; Mrs. Ida Bergh, of Marshall.

Alexander Lord is a member of the M. W. A. lodge and the Ghent Fire Department. He was elected assessor of the village but resigned because of his continued absence from the village.

M. D. BAIR (1895), a successful farmer of Amiret township, was born in Pennsylvania May 4, 1874. He is a son of William H. and Agnes (Coons) Bair, natives of Pennsylvania and now deceased. The father moved to North Dakota after his wife's death and took a homestead. He died in 1906.

Our subject lived in his native state until the age of twenty-one years. During that period he received his education, and when he attained his majority he was ready to start out in life for himself. The boy's mother had died the previous year, and in the spring of 1895 young Bair came to Lyon county. He worked at farm labor three years in Amiret township and then purchased the farm he now owns, the northwest quarter of section 22. He rented land in the township three years before he moved to his present place, and during his eleven years' residence on his own farm he has several years rented and farmed additional land. His farm is well improved and is one of the best quarters in the township. Mr. Bair engages extensively in stock raising.

Mr. Bair married Lydia Mitchell in Amiret township March 9, 1899. She was born in Illinois October 10, 1875, and is a daughter

of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Mitchell of the township. Mr. and Mrs. Bair have two children, Esther Agnes, born September 17, 1906, and Mack Donald, born July 11, 1910.

The Bair family are members of the Presbyterian church. Our subject is a member of the Yeomen lodge of Amiret, of which he is the master of accounts. He has been a member of the Amiret Township Board the past three years and served as chairman of the board one year.

ORLANDO J. OESTERN (1900) has been the manager of the Atlantic Hotel of Marshall for the last twelve years. He is a native of Luverne, Minnesota, and was born March 3, 1882. He received his education in the schools of that city and when a young man took a position as clerk of the old Luverne Hotel.

In 1900 Mr. Oestern moved from Luverne to Marshall and has ever since been the manager of the city's leading hotel. He is a member of the Masonic, Elks and Modern Woodmen lodges. He has taken the thirty-third degree in baseball and is one of Marshall's most ardent "fans."

The parents of our subject, Olof J. and Martha (Greenland) Oestern, were born in Lansing, Ohio, and Rushford, Minnesota, respectively, and were homesteaders of Rock county. The father was traveling auditor for the Walter A. Wood Harvester Company. While transacting business at a bank in Sherburn in 1896 he was shot and killed by robbers, who held up the bank. The mother of our subject resides at Alhambra, California. There is one other child in the family, Rose, an instructor in the schools of Alhambra.

DAVID LIEDTKE (1903), farmer and land owner of Lynd township, is a German by birth. His nativity occurred October 18, 1861, and his parents were David and Augusta (Weis) Liedtke.

Our subject was educated and grew to man's estate in his native land, and he served three years in the German army. He came to America in 1886 and located in Poweshiek county, Iowa. There he worked out several years and then rented land and farmed until he came to Lyon county in 1903. Upon his arrival he bought the south-

east quarter of section 19, Lynd township, and resided there until 1909. Then he moved to his present home, the northwest quarter of section 26, only a short distance from the village of Lynd, which he had purchased in 1906.

Mr. Liedtke was married in Iowa in 1892 to Bertha Weis. She was born in Germany April 1, 1873, a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ludwig Weis. To this union the following seven children have been born: Olga, Minnie, Benno, Alma, Otto, Emma and Arnold. The family are members of the German Lutheran church.

GUNNAR B. BJORNSON (1877), postmaster of Minneota and editor and proprietor of the *Minneota Mascot*, is one of the prominent and respected citizens of his village and county. As a newspaper man Mr. Bjornson ranks high, and his paper is one of the most liberally quoted of the country weeklies of the state. He is a fearless and able writer and his editorials on political, economic and social questions attract statewide attention. Mr. Bjornson is a self-made man and a Lyon county product in which its citizens take pride.

The subject of this review was born in Iceland August 17, 1872. His father, Bjorn Bjornson, died in 1885; his mother, Kristin (Benjaminsdottir) Bjornson, resides with her son in Minneota. Gunnar Bjornson accompanied his mother to the United States in 1877 when a child five years of age. Until 1885 he resided on farms in the vicinity of Minneota and then moved to the village. For two years he had charge of the town herd, attending school during the winter months. Thereafter for several years he did carpenter work and clerked in stores.

In 1895 Mr. Bjornson bought a half interest in the *Minneota Mascot*, helped in its production less than a year, and then sold to his partner. The next year he attended the Gem City Business College of Quincy, Illinois, and for another year had charge of a general merchandise store. He then entered the law office of C. M. Gislason and read law two and one-half years, attended to the collections and other matters.

Mr. Bjornson again entered the newspaper field in the spring of 1900, bought the *Mascot* at that time, and has since published

it. He was appointed postmaster by President Roosevelt in April, 1903, and has since served in that capacity. He has been a member of the Board of Education for the last nine years, president of that body for the last four years, and several years ago served as justice of the peace. Mr. Bjornson is a member of the Lutheran church and of the A. F. & A. M., R. A. M., M. W. A., Maccabee and Yeomen lodges.

Our subject was married in Minneota March 28, 1903, to Ingebjorg Augusta Hurdal, a native of Iceland and a former resident of Winnipeg, Manitoba. They are the parents of three boys: Edward Hjalmar, Kristjan Valdimar and Gunnar Bjorn.

PHILIP P. AHERN (1883) is one of the old residents of Taunton and has been prominent in business and social circles in that village. He has served as president of the Village Council ever since Taunton was incorporated in the spring of 1900. Mr. Ahern is local manager of the C. M. Youmans Lumber Company and is interested in other lines of business.

Mr. Ahern was born in Springfield, Illinois, September 22, 1867. When he was seventeen years of age, in 1883, he moved with his parents to Lyon county, and until he was twenty-three years old he lived with them on the farm on the west half of section 8, Eidsvold township, just north of Taunton station. Then he located in the little village and for seventeen years bought grain for O. L. Marfield, of Winona. After July, 1898, he also had the management of the C. M. Youmans Lumber Company's yard and elevator, an assistant looking after the grain department until he gave up that part of the business in 1905. Since that time Mr. Ahern has given his time to the management of the lumber yard.

In other lines of business Mr. Ahern has been interested. In the spring of 1895 he was one of the organizers of the Mutual Elevator Company, served as its secretary three years, and then severed his connection with the company. He is vice president of the State Bank of Taunton and owns a quarter section of land on section 5, Eidsvold. Mr. Ahern is a member of the

Knights of Columbus and Modern Woodmen lodges.

Philip Ahern is a son of the late Garrett Ahern and Catherine (Brown) Ahern, natives of Ireland. The father came to America about 1855, the mother a short time later, and they were married at Springfield, Illinois. They settled in Eidsvold township, Lyon county, in 1883, and in that precinct Mr. Ahern died in 1899, at the age of sixty-seven years. Mrs. Ahern lives on the old home farm with her son, J. J. Ahern. Our subject is the eldest of ten children in this family, the others being as follows: Josie, William, Ellen (Mrs. Thomas Welch), of Minneota; James J., Michael F., Catherine (Mrs. Morris Breen), of Minneapolis; Thomas, assistant cashier of the Farmers Bank of Hampden, North Dakota; Garrett F., of Montana; and Annie.

Philip P. Ahern was married at Minneota in June, 1894, to Catherine Salmon, who died July 3, 1905. As a result of this union a son, Philip, was born. The second marriage of Mr. Ahern occurred at Chatfield, Minnesota, to Agnes Moore, a native of that place. To them two children have been born, named Garrett and John.

GUS KNUTSON (1903) is the proprietor of a saloon, an auctioneer, and a dealer in horses and resides in Minneota. He is a native of Norway and was born May 24, 1878. His parents are Knute and Soneva Knutson, who reside in Norway. They are the parents of the following children: T. Knutson and Knute Knutson, of Iowa; Ole and Gus, of Minneota; Ingebritson Knutson, of Norway.

Gus came to America on his sixteenth birthday and lived in Morris, Illinois, one year. He then moved to Wright county, Iowa, where he farmed until 1903, the year of his arrival to Lyon county. He located at Minneota, purchased an interest in the saloon of B. H. Cleminson, and a year later became sole proprietor. He has conducted the place since that time. Mr. Knutson is also an auctioneer, having taken up that line of work in 1909, and he has been very successful in that work. Another line is trading and selling horses.

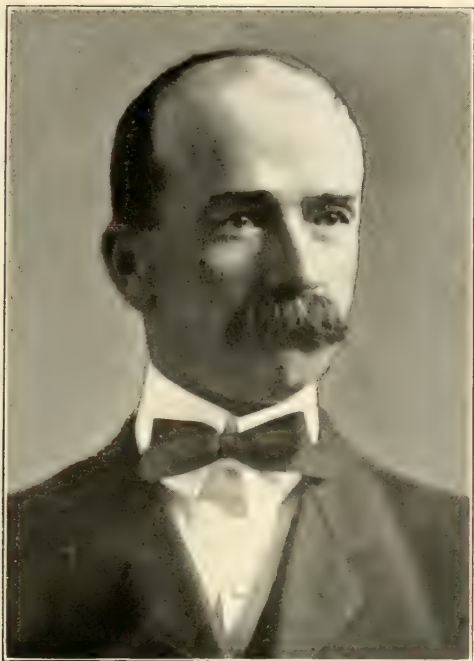
On June 22, 1907, occurred the mar-

riage of Mr. Knutson to Edna Williamson, who was born near Glencoe, Minnesota. She was a school teacher. They were married at Glencoe. Mr. and Mrs. Knutson are the parents of two children, Vivian and Dudley.

STURLAUGUR GILBERTSON (1878), manager of the Laird-Norton Yards at Minneota, is a homesteader and one of the pioneers of northwestern Lyon county. He is a native of Iceland and was born December 29, 1850, the son of Gulbrand and Sigridar Gilbertson, both deceased. He is one of a family of five children, the others being Olena, of British Columbia; Hafide, of North Dakota; and Helga and Thorsden, of Iceland.

Mr. Gilbertson came to the United States in 1878 and direct to Lyon county. He took as a homestead claim the northeast quarter of section 8, Nordland township, and resided on the farm seven years. He was one of the early settlers of that precinct, and the shack that he built, 14x16 feet, eight feet high, was considered a very comfortable dwelling in those days. He lived in that dwelling during the memorable winter of 1880-81 with his family and experienced exceedingly hard times. The wheat he had raised had not been threshed and as he had no fuel he was obliged to borrow straw from a neighbor to burn. There was no flour to be had and the family prepared their meal by grinding wheat in a coffee-mill. His live stock consisted of a pair of oxen and a cow, which were kept in a dug-out on the bank of a ravine. This was completely covered many times during the long winter and Mr. Gilbertson had trouble in keeping them alive until spring.

After seven years on the farm Mr. Gilbertson moved to Minneota and that village has since been his home. He took a position with the Laird-Norton Company when he located in the village in 1886 and has been with the company ever since—as manager since 1897. Mr. Gilbertson is a stockholder and director of the First National Bank. He served as president of the Village Council five years and was village recorder eight years. He is a member of the Modern Woodmen lodge.



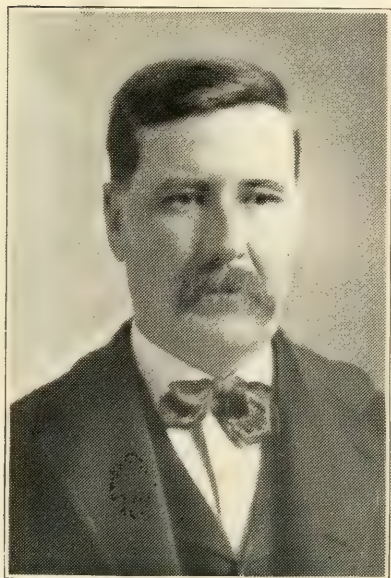
PHILIP P. AHERN

Business Man of Taunton and President of  
the Village Council.



GUS KNUDSON

A Business Man of Minneota.



ST. GILBERTSON

A Homesteader of Lyon County  
and a Minneota Business Man.



G. B. BJORNSON

Postmaster of Minneota and Editor  
Minneota Mascot.



Mr. Gilbertson was married in Iceland November 25, 1877, to Aslaug Johnson. They have four children: Gilbert, of Milwaukee; John, of Minneapolis; Holm, of North Dakota; and Frieda.

PETER A. PETERSON (1901) is the owner of a section of fine land in Coon Creek township and resides thereon. He was born December 24, 1844, in Sweden, the son of Peter Neilson. He attended school in his native land, and after finishing school worked at farm labor until 1867, when he immigrated to the United States. He first located at De Kalb, Illinois, where he worked on a farm two years, then went to Chicago, where he was a teamster three years. Returning to De Kalb, he remained there until 1880, when he moved to Sac county, Iowa, where he bought land and farmed until 1897. In the last mentioned year he moved to Clay county, Iowa, bought land, and resided there until 1901, when he sold his land and moved to Lyon county.

Mr. Peterson has improvements on each quarter of his land, upon which his sons reside. He raises considerable stock, among other breeds, Duroc-Jersey hogs and Hereford cattle. He is a member of the Swedish Lutheran church. Mr. Peterson holds stock in the Farmers Elevator Company of Russell. He has one sister, Mrs. Andrew Larson, who resides in Chicago.

Mr. Peterson is a man of family. January 20, 1869, he was married to Annie Petersen, a daughter of Peter and Christina Petersen, natives of Sweden. Mrs. Peterson was born August 12, 1840. Our subject and his wife are the parents of the following named children: Ebenezer, born August 10, 1870; Annie (Mrs. A. P. Carver), born August 29, 1872; Julia (Mrs. H. N. Carver), born in 1875; Joseph E., born July 8, 1877; Monvil, born August 30, 1879; Martin, born September 2, 1881; Mary (Mrs. O. C. Willard), born November 18, 1883. Joseph Peterson was married October 25, 1911, to Carrie A. Nelson, a daughter of Nels and Katherine Christine Nelson, of Coon Creek township.

HOMER D. SHARRATT (1896) is the assistant cashier of the Lyon County Na-

tional Bank of Marshall. He was born in Green Lake county, Wisconsin, November 29, 1880, the son of George and Celestia (Hodgson) Sharratt, the former a native of Staffordshire, England, and the latter of Syracuse, New York, of English ancestry. In 1892 the father came to Lyon county, purchased land, and has since led a retired life in the city of Marshall. They are the parents of only one child, the subject of this sketch.

When twelve years of age, Homer moved to Madison, Wisconsin, where he received a common school education. In 1896 he came to Lyon county and located at Marshall, where he attended the Marshall High School and was graduated therefrom, later taking a course in the University of Minnesota. In 1902 Mr. Sharratt entered the Lyon County Bank as bookkeeper and was promoted January 1, 1911, to assistant cashier. Our subject is a member of the Masonic lodge.

On February 15, 1898, at Stillwater, Minnesota, occurred the marriage of Mr. Sharratt to Selma C. Magnuson, a native of Stillwater.

WILL BANKS (1909) is a farmer and land owner of Lynd township who has resided in Lyon county only a few years. Will is a native of Illinois and was born near Belvidere November 19, 1866, a son of C. E. and Sarah (Nicholson) Banks. The father was a native of Maine, born in 1835, and when only nine years of age accompanied his parents to Illinois. On May 18, 1911, he was struck by the Northwestern train in Marshall and killed. The mother is a native of Nottingham, England, and was born in 1846. She resides at present with our subject in Lynd township.

The gentleman whose name heads this review received his early education in the district schools of Bremer county, Iowa. Later he attended high school at Waverly, Iowa, and Elliott's Business College at Burlington, Iowa, from which he was graduated in 1887. He then went to Pasadena, California, and obtained a position with the Pasadena Nursery Company as bookkeeper. He continued in that capacity a year, after which he was employed by another nursery company for several months.

Mr. Banks later became an officer in the Salvation Army, which he held for five years, during which time he toured the state of California. He also spent one winter as bookkeeper for the Pacific Coast division of the Army.

In 1894 Mr. Banks located in Kossuth county, Iowa, and moved on a farm which he owned there. He later bought more land adjoining that farm, making him 320 acres of land. He operated the farm fourteen years, raising blooded Duroc-Jersey hogs and a great number of cattle and sheep. While in Iowa he shipped a number of his blooded stock all over the country. He was awarded first prize for his stock at the Minnesota State Fair in 1909. His son, Fisk, when fifteen years of age, secured first prize and sweepstakes at the corn show which the Iowa Corn Breeders Association holds each year. He also secured two first premiums at the Minnesota State Fair in 1911.

In November, 1909, Mr. Banks sold his interests in Iowa, in April of the same year having purchased the land he now owns and operates in Lynd township. He is the owner of 400 acres known as the "Coteau Farm," formerly owned by O. C. Gregg. He raises considerable stock, including Duroc-Jersey hogs, dairy cattle and western sheep.

Our subject is a member of the Methodist church. In Kossuth county, Iowa, he held the following positions: Township trustee, president of the School Board, president of the Creamery Association, director of the County Fair Association. Mr. Banks has been a successful farmer and stockraiser.

On February 24, 1890, Mr. Banks was united in marriage to Catherine Oates, a daughter of William and Ann Oates. Mrs. Banks was born in Durham county, England, in 1867. They are the parents of the following children: Grace, Fisk, Charles, John, Will, George, Gladys, Gale and Lee.

FRED E. BUTLER (1896) is the proprietor of the Tracy Feed Barn, which he has conducted since 1911. He was born in Burlington, Vermont, March 4, 1863, a son of Isaac and Eliza Butler, natives of

Vermont. They have only two children living: Fred E., of this sketch, and Augusta, of Rutland, Vermont.

Fred lived in Vermont until reaching twenty years of age, when he went to Nebraska City, Nebraska, and entered the Grand Central Hotel as cook at twelve dollars per month. One year later he was made chef of the same hotel at a salary of \$100 per month. He remained in Nebraska about five years and then went to Salt Lake City, Utah, where he was employed two years as chef for Ezra Young, a son of Brigham Young and the proprietor of the Templeton Hotel. He then came to Minnesota, locating at St. Cloud, where he worked as cook one year.

In 1896 Mr. Butler came to Lyon county and located at Tracy, where he worked as chief cook in the Depot Hotel about a year. He then returned to St. Cloud, where he remained one year, after which he returned to Tracy and worked about three years in the Depot Hotel. Mr. Butler went to Watertown and worked in the Grand Hotel three years, and to Marshall, where he conducted a livery barn two years. In 1911 he returned to Tracy and purchased the Tracy Feed Barn, which he has since conducted.

Mr. Butler was married in Fairmont, Minnesota, on October 12, 1895, to Lottie Sturdevant, a native of Wisconsin.

ERICK M. SWANSON (1902), a resident of Coon Creek township, was born in Dalsland, Sweden, July 22, 1854. The parents of Mr. Swanson were Swan and Christine (Erickson) Swanson, who immigrated to America in 1882 and located at Rockford, Illinois. Both parents are deceased. Erick attended school in Sweden until fifteen years of age and then clerked in a store for one and a half years.

In 1872 Mr. Swanson came to the United States and located in Vermont, where he resided several months. From that time until 1885 he resided in Sibley county, Minnesota, and Scott county, Iowa, working at farm labor, and at Rockford, Illinois, four years, working in a sash and door factory. In 1885 he moved to Nobles county, Minnesota, where he conducted a rented farm until 1902, the year of his coming to

Lyon county. On his arrival he located on section 9, Coon Creek township, where he still resides. He raises some stock, among other breeds, Poland China hogs, Durham cattle and Plymouth Rock chickens. He was a school director for several years in Nobles county and has been road overseer for several years in Coon Creek township. He holds stock in the Farmers Elevator Company of Russell and in the Farmers Mutual Telephone Company.

On February 10, 1882, Elizabeth Levine became the wife of Mr. Swanson. Mrs. Swanson is a native of Sweden and a daughter of John and Sarah Levine, of Nobles county. She was born October 6, 1860. Mr. and Mrs. Swanson are the parents of the following children: Albin O., born April 21, 1883; Rudolph, born January 11, 1885; Amy, born September 1, 1886; Edward, born July 24, 1888; Mabel, born June 14, 1890; Charles, born June 9, 1892; Elmer, born October 17, 1896; Florence, born December 26, 1898; Gustaf, born February 10, 1903. All the children except Mabel reside in Lyon county.

Mr. Swanson has two brothers, Charles and August Swanson, of Rockford, Illinois. Mrs. Swanson has three sisters and two brothers: Nina, of Rockford, Illinois; Carrie, Emily and Martin Levine, of Nobles county, Minnesota; Axel, of Seattle, Washington. Her parents reside in Nobles county.

MRS. JULIANNA BUYSSE (1883), of Westerheim township, is one of the early members of the Catholic colony that located in Lyon county. She is the widow of Peter Buysse, who was one of the well-known and respected residents of the precinct.

Mrs. Buysse's maiden name was Julianna Vertrest, and she was born in Holland April 22, 1857. In her native land she made her home until her marriage to Mr. Buysse on March 1, 1883. The young couple came to America that year and direct to Lyon county, and Mrs. Buysse has ever since been a resident of the county.

Peter Buysse was born in Belgium March 18, 1858, a son of Bruno and Sophia Buysse, both deceased. He came to America in 1881, lived in Illinois two

years, and then after his marriage in the old country in the spring of 1883, came to America and took up his residence in Lyon county. For some time he engaged in farming in Eidsvold township and then located in Westerheim, where the family has ever since lived and where Mr. Buysse died on April 5, 1903.

Since the death of the head of the family the farm has been under the management of his sons. The family farm 720 acres of land and own 1280 acres in Westerheim township, being among the precinct's heaviest land owners. Mrs. Buysse and family are members of the Catholic church of Ghent. She has stock in the Farmers Elevator Company of Ghent.

Mrs. Buysse is the mother of the following named children, all of whom reside at home: Mary, born April 16, 1885; Frank, born June 9, 1886; August, born August 12, 1887; Charles, born January 20, 1891; Julius, born December 3, 1892; Joseph, born September 6, 1896. The first born died in infancy and two other children, Leo and Joseph, are deceased.

MRS. ANNETTE HARDEN (1896) is the proprietor of a general store in the village of Russell. She was born in LaSalle county, Illinois, September 23, 1849, a daughter of Clement and Susan (Worsley) Eastman, both of whom are deceased. Mrs. Harden received her schooling in Illinois, where she resided with her parents until twenty-four years of age.

January 1, 1873, the subject of this review was married to Eugene Furbush, a native of LaSalle county. To this union was born one child, Mrs. Stella Carlaw, of Russell, the widow of the late Archie Carlaw. Mrs. Carlaw is the junior member of the firm of Carlaw & Harden, general merchants of Russell. In 1877 Mr. and Mrs. Furbush moved to Redfield, South Dakota, where they resided twelve years, when Mrs. Furbush and her daughter, Stella, returned to Illinois, where they remained, with the exception of a year spent in South Dakota, until 1896. That year our subject was married at Lake Benton to H. W. B. Harden, of Russell. Mrs. Harden has resided in Russell since that date. For the past fourteen years she has been

identified with the mercantile business of that village.

For ten years Mrs. Harden conducted the store now known as the Farmers Co-operative Store, selling to the co-operative company in June, 1907. In June, 1910, in company with her son-in-law, Archie Carlaw, she purchased the Jay Peterson stock of general merchandise. October 13, 1911, Mr. Carlaw died, and since that time his wife has had charge of the interest formerly held by him. They handle a complete stock of dry goods, groceries, notions and millinery. They have a neat, up-to-date stock and have been very successful.

PETER C. NELSON (1890). One of the most prosperous farmers and stock raisers of Coon Creek township is Peter Nelson, who resides on the southeast quarter of section 5. Mr. Nelson was born in Ringsta, Denmark, on January 31, 1861. He is the son of Nels Peter Christianson, who resides with a son, Sam Nelson, in Coon Creek township.

Peter Nelson attended school in the land of his birth until thirteen years of age. Then he came to America with his father and located near Cedar Falls, Iowa, where he worked at farm labor twelve years. He then rented land in that vicinity and farmed for himself two years. In 1890 he came to Lyon county and farmed rented land near Tyler three years. At the end of that time he bought land in Coon Creek township, which he farmed four years and sold, later buying the farm he now owns and operates, the southeast quarter of section 5, Coon Creek township. He raises stock, among other breeds, Duroc-Jersey hogs, Polled Angus cattle and Brown Leghorn chickens. He is a stockholder of the Farmers Mutual Telephone Company. Mr. Nelson has been a successful farmer and stock raiser. He has two brothers, Sam, of Coon Creek township, and Andrew, of Lincoln county.

Mr. Nelson is a man of family. He was married June 11, 1895, to Louise Benson, a daughter of Bangt Benson, of Sweden. She was born February 18, 1863. Mr. and Mrs. Nelson are the parents of one child, Bennie, born May 5, 1896.

DR. FRED H. POWERS (1910), practicing physician of Marshall, was born in Bloomington, Illinois, February 8, 1869. When a child he accompanied his parents to Shelbyville, of the same state, where he was graduated from the high school and where he grew to manhood. After his high school days he went to Chicago and secured the degree of Ph. G. from the Chicago Department of Pharmacy of the University of Illinois.

Mr. Powers practised pharmacy in Chicago seven years and then took up the study of medicine. He was graduated from Rush Medical College, of Chicago, in 1900. After his graduation Dr. Powers served as an interne in the Chicago Lying-in Hospital and Dispensary. He became a member of the staff of the Julian Burnham Hospital at Champaign, Illinois, and was appointed to the chair of obstetrics and gynecology and later bacteriology in the Burnham Hospital Training School for Nurses. During his residence in Illinois, Dr. Powers was secretary of the Twin City Physicians Club, was censor and vice president of the Champaign County Medical Society, was a member of the Illinois State Medical Society, the Aesculapian Medical Society of the Wabash Valley and the American Medical Association.

In 1907 Dr. Powers returned to Chicago to become an associate of Professor E. Fletcher Ingals, of Rush Medical College. In 1910 he located in Marshall, succeeding Dr. F. C. Wheat.

Dr. Powers is a son of the late John W. Powers. The latter was born in Flemingsburg, Kentucky, later moved to Louisville, and later still to Illinois, where he engaged in the banking business. He was a soldier of the Union army during the War of the Rebellion. The mother of our subject, Mary E. Larrimore, was a native of Springfield, Illinois, her parents having been natives of Maryland.

At Vienna, Maryland, on June 19, 1901, Dr. Powers was married to Celeste Webb, of Baltimore. One child, Margaret, has been born to this union.

CHRIST E. SIGURDSON (1891), farmer of Nordland township, was born in Lyon county January 15, 1891. He attended

school until sixteen years of age and thereafter worked for his father on the farm. In the spring of 1912 he took the management of the place and is now farming it on shares with his father. He also conducts the 120-acre farm of Christine Hanson on the same section, 16. He is a member of the Icelandic Lutheran church of Minnesota.

The parents of Christ Sigurdson are Einar and Lena (Bergson) Sigurdson, who live on the farm conducted by their son. They came from Iceland to Lyon county in 1882 and have ever since lived in Nordland township. Ten children were born to them, named as follows: Otto and Bjorn, who are deceased; Paul, a farmer of Nordland township; Lena (Mrs. Andrew Nelson), of Lake Hendricks, Minnesota; John, Ole, Christ E., Otto, Marvin and Bjorn, who reside on the home farm.

HENRY THAVIS (1904). Numerous private residences in Tracy are equipped with heating plants installed by Henry Thavis, plumber and installer of heating systems, whose place of business is on Third Street. During the three years that Mr. Thavis has been in the plumbing and heating business he has established a reputation for reliability and good workmanship. The heating plants in the Central school, and in the Gund Brewing Company's depot were put in by Mr. Thavis.

The subject of this sketch was born in Sibley county, Minnesota, March 5, 1879. He went to school in St. Peter and at an early age commenced to learn the plumbing trade. In the early part of 1904 Henry moved to Marshall, where he worked for a local plumber several months; then he moved to Tracy, where he had been given employment with the Northwestern Railroad Company, as plumber in the Tracy roundhouse. That position he held six and one-half years, and in June, 1909, he started in the plumbing business for himself. While a resident of Tracy Henry has become a member of the M. W. A. lodge.

The marriage of Henry Thavis and Miss Martha Ferrell took place at Marysberg, Minnesota, in November, 1900. Miss Ferrell's home was in Le Sueur county. The

union has been blessed with three children: Lawrence Glenn, Paul Ferrell and Leonard Jerome.

The parents of the subject of this sketch are Mathias and Margaret (Hames) Thavis, natives of Sibley and Nicollet counties, respectively. They now reside at Spokane, Washington, and with them are three of their children, Anna, John and Margaret. Mary (Mrs. Andrew Bohrer), another sister of Henry Thavis, lives in St. Peter.

VERNON B. TUBBS (1896) is the proprietor of one half section of Clifton township's best farm land. He is giving much attention to stock raising in addition to his general farm work and raises Short-horn cattle and Poland China hogs.

Vernon B. Tubbs was born in Jefferson county, Wisconsin, October 20, 1871, and is a son of Benjamin P. and Julia (Moore) Tubbs, natives of New York and Ohio, respectively. The parents moved to Wisconsin in 1845 and located on a farm. Vernon received his schooling in Wisconsin, and when seventeen years of age he accompanied his parents to Kossuth county, Iowa, and there lived until 1896.

It was in that year that our subject came to Lyon county and bought the southeast quarter of section 1, Clifton township, where he now resides. Later he purchased the northeast quarter of section 1, and now farms the entire half section. Mr. Tubbs is one of the progressive farmers of the vicinity and though a comparatively young man, he is today one of the township's most prosperous farmers.

The marriage of Vernon B. Tubbs and Eva H. Ranney occurred in Iowa October 18, 1893. She was born September 4, 1876, and is a daughter of Frank L. and Hannah (Peck) Ranney, natives of Wisconsin and now residents of Algona, Iowa. To Mr. and Mrs. Tubbs have been born three children, as follows: Joseph W., born September 9, 1894; Walter C., born May 16, 1899; and Beatrice, born May 14, 1906. The Tubbs family are members of the Presbyterian church.

CAMIL DEBUF (1906) is a recent addition to the farming fraternity of Fair-

view township, moving from Ghent to the northeast quarter of section 29 in the spring of 1911.

Mr. Debuf was born in Belgium February 15, 1871, and received his education in that country, living at home and working for his father until 1904, when the boy came to America. North Dakota was his destination, and Camil spent the first two years in the new land on a ranch in Billings county. It was during his residence in Dakota that our subject was married at Dickinson, to Marie Lemmertyn. Mrs. Debuf was born in Belgium and she came with her parents to this country in 1905.

After his marriage Mr. Debuf came to Lyon county, worked in Ghent six months, and then rented the land in Fairview where he took up his residence one year ago.

Mr. and Mrs. Camil Debuf are the parents of five children, Joe, Constant, Carel, Alfons and Mary. The Debufs are members of the Catholic church.

PETER VANGHELuwe (1893), a well-to-do farmer of Grandview township, was born in Belgium January 27, 1865, and was brought up and educated in that country. He finished school and helped his father on the home place until coming to the United States in 1893.

In that year he came to this country and located in Lyon county, working as a farm laborer around Marshall. In 1895 he married and rented a farm in Lake Marshall township, which he conducted three years. Later he bought the southeast quarter of section 24, Grandview township, at the time an unimproved piece of land. Mr. Vangheluwe has put up modern buildings on the place and has made it a model farm in all respects. In addition to his home place he also farms eighty acres on section 25, which he purchased in 1909.

Peter Vangheluwe is one of a family of ten children born to Bruno and Louise Vangheluwe. The father died in 1901 at the age of eighty-five years, and the mother is still living in the old country. Peter is the only one of the children in this country. He has made wonderful progress since coming to America, begin-

ning as a common laborer without any means. He now is the owner of 240 acres of valuable land, improved with substantial buildings. Mr. Vangheluwe is one of the township supervisors and is clerk of school district No. 21.

Our subject was married in Marshall. He took as his wife Sylvia DeVos, the wedding ceremony taking place December 27, 1895. He and his wife are members of the Catholic church.

GEORGE LONG (1897) is the proprietor of a bakery and restaurant in the city of Marshall. He was born at Lafayette, Indiana, July 25, 1861, the son of Barney and Mary Long. Both his parents were natives of Germany and both are deceased. Besides George there are two other children in the family: Fred, of Lafayette, Indiana, and Mary Bilby, of Terre Haute, Indiana.

When twelve years of age George accompanied his parents to Terre Haute. From there he went to Chicago, where he conducted a lodging house, and later to Kansas City, Missouri, where he worked in the Scotch oat meal factory. In 1889 Mr. Long went to Alaska and during the next two years he was engaged in mining and freighting. Thereafter for a time he worked for the Northern Pacific Railroad Company in Tacoma, Washington, and during the World's Fair resided in Chicago.

Mr. Long came West in 1895, resided two years in Redwood county, and then came to Lyon county. For a few years he worked at farm labor and in 1900 opened a restaurant in Marshall. After conducting that three years he moved to a new location and opened a bakery and ice cream establishment in connection. He has an up-to-date bakery and conducts a first-class restaurant.

In the city of Marshall, on December 13, 1895, Mr. Long was married to Fannie Schoak. They have no children of their own but have an adopted daughter, Addie. Mr. Long is a member of the Masonic, Woodmen, Maccabees and Eagle lodges.

JOHN H. JOHNSON (1897) is a farmer of Shelburne township. He and his

brother-in-law, Dan Hasbargen, own 360 acres of land in that precinct and they farm the entire tract. They are successful farmers and are rated among the substantial men of southwestern Lyon county.

Near the city of Peoria, Illinois, on March 23, 1867, John H. Johnson first saw the light of day. When he was yet a baby the family moved to Danforth, Iroquois county, and there John grew to manhood. Until he became of age he worked on his father's farm, and then for a year or two he worked for other farmers in the vicinity. Mr. Johnson then engaged in farming for himself, which he followed in Illinois until coming to Lyon county in 1897.

Mr. Johnson came to the county with Dan Hasbargen and the two have ever since been partners in their farming operations. They planted the grove on the farm and made all the improvements on the place. Mr. Johnson has not married and makes his home with his partner. He has served as road overseer of his district.

The parents of our subject were Henry and Annie (Gertis) Johnson. They were born in Germany and for many years were residents of Illinois. They moved to Lyon county in 1893, purchased the south half of section 25, Shelburne township, and resided there until their deaths. The mother died in the fall of 1895, the father about 1901. There are seven living children in the family, named as follows: John H., Paul H., Christ, George, Rachael (Mrs. Dan Hasbargen), Onno and Mary (Mrs. Albert Loats). Another son, Henry Johnson, died in August, 1910, at the age of twenty-eight years.

PETER M. BERG (1905) is a general merchant of the village of Minneota. He is a native of Sweden and was born January 6, 1862. His parents were Swen Peter and Inga Mary (Johnson) Peter, both of whom are deceased. They were the parents of two children: Peter M., of this sketch, and Andrew, who is farming in Swede Prairie township, Yellow Medicine county.

The subject of this sketch came to the United States in 1881 and located in Yel-

low Medicine county, where he worked on farms for a few years, near Hanley Falls. He purchased a farm in Burton township in 1887 and operated it until 1905, when he moved to Minneota and purchased the general merchandise stock of Sterk Brothers, which he has since conducted. He still owns his farm.

Mr. Berg is a member of the Swedish Lutheran church and the I. O. O. F., M. W. A. and Yeomen lodges. He is also justice of the peace of the village of Minneota. While in Yellow Medicine county he held various offices, including justice of the peace, member of the school board, and a member of the Township Board of Supervisors.

Mr. Berg was married at Hanley Falls October 24, 1884, to Helen Knuteson, a native of Goodhue county, Minnesota. Mr. and Mrs. Berg are the parents of the following ten children: Hilda (Mrs. P. J. Brantnum), of Canby, Minnesota; Andre W. and Clara E., who clerk for their father; Henry A., a student; Carl F., grain buyer for Bigham Brothers at Minneota; Emma E., Peter S., George A., James A. and Arby, who reside at home.

To our subject is largely due the splendid rural mail service from the village of Minneota, he circulating the petition for the establishment of route No. 1. K. K. Mohn was the first carrier on that route, which was established in 1902.

IVER OPDAHL (1881) is a native of Lyon county and with the exception of four years has lived in Westerheim township all his life.

Mr. Opdahl is a son of Helge and Ingeborg Opdahl, natives of Norway. They came to the United States about 1870 and lived in Goodhue county, Minnesota, until 1879, in which year they moved to Lyon county and purchased the east half of section 32, Westerheim township. Excepting one year spent in North Dakota, Helge Opdahl made his home there until his death on September 12, 1908, at the age of fifty-eight years. Mrs. Opdahl is now living in Barnes county, North Dakota. She and her husband were the parents of seven children, Albert, Ida, Annie, Iver,

Henry, Andrew and Betsy. The three last named are dead.

Three years previous to his father's death Iver Opdahl took charge of the old home place. In 1907 he went to North Dakota and farmed four years, but with that exception he has always resided on his present place.

Our subject was married in the township on December 5, 1907, and took for his wife Hilda Christianson, a native of Norway who came to the United States when thirteen years of age. By her marriage to Mr. Opdahl she became the mother of three children, Isabelle Juliett, Henry Clifford and Ingulf Harold. The Opdahls are members of the Norwegian Lutheran church.

JOEL MENARD (1902), of Marshall, was born in Kankakee county, Illinois, July 2, 1868, the son of Prudent and Henrietta (Fortin) Menard. His parents were born in Canada but moved to Kankakee county when children and were married there. Mr. Menard died there about 1900; the mother still lives there. The other children of the family are George, Philip, Alfred, Almyra and Alex.

Until he reached his majority Joel Menard lived on his father's farm, and then he engaged in farming on his own account in Kankakee county until moving to Marshall in 1902. He has since devoted his time to looking after his farming interests and breeding Percheron horses. He has one of the finest residences in the city.

Mr. Menard was married in his native county on New Years Day, 1891, to Emma Caron, who is also a native of Kankakee county and who was born August 25, 1873. They have six children, namely: Prudent, Clara, Rachel, Andrew, Hugo and Virgil. A son, Marshal, died July 4, 1909, at the age of seven years.

JOHN K. SPENCER (1900), a resident of Amiret, was born January 16, 1859, in Jefferson county, Indiana. He is a son of Benjamin and Roda (Warfield) Spencer, natives of Kentucky, and when six years of age his parents moved to Van

Buren county, Iowa. His father bought land in the vicinity of Melton, and John grew up on the farm.

The boy received his schooling in the district in which the farm was located, and until the age of twenty-five years he lived at home with his parents, assisting with the work on the home farm. In 1884 young Spencer decided to strike out for himself and went to Beadle county, South Dakota, where he took a quarter section of land as a homestead and eighty acres as a pre-emption claim, and farmed until 1900.

That year Mr. Spencer moved to Lyon county and rented the 640 acres on section 20, Amiret township. He staid on that place one year and then moved to Custer township, where he rented 160 acres on section 10 the next four years. He then moved to Redwood county and spent one year there before returning to Lyon county and locating on section 20, Amiret township. Later he located on section 4 and farmed five and one-half years before moving to Amiret village, where he has since been the proprietor of a boarding house.

The subject of this sketch was married in Melton, Iowa, February 17, 1879, to Arvilla Davis. She was born in Van Buren county, Iowa, November 12, 1859, and is a daughter of Wamouth and Rebecca (Hargrove) Davis, natives of Indiana and Delaware, respectively. Her parents were early settlers of Van Buren county and lived there until their deaths. Three children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Spencer: Nellie May, born August 6, 1883; Clarence Sidney, born November 14, 1884; and Ruth Pearl, born November 28, 1898. Mr. Spencer is fraternally allied with the Yeomen lodge.

CASSIUS M. GIBBS (1893), of Marshall, has spent the greater part of his life in Lyon county and is a native son of Minnesota. He was born in Le Sueur county December 13, 1881, and when one year old was taken with the family to Minneapolis. He moved to Marshall with his parents in 1893 and has since lived in that city.

He attended the Marshall schools until

sixteen years of age. Then he entered the News-Messenger office, learned the printer's trade, and was connected with the office nine years. He engaged in the restaurant business two years and has since been engaged in various occupations. He is not married and makes his home with his parents. For the past ten or twelve years Mr. Gibbs has been a member of the Marshall Fire Department and he is a member of the Modern Woodmen lodge.

James G. Gibbs, the father of our subject, is also a resident of Marshall. He was born in Post Creek, Chemung county, New York, August 3, 1835, and is a veteran of the Civil War. He served four years and five months, under two enlistments, in the First New York Light Artillery, and participated in thirty-seven engagements. He was with General McClellan during the entire campaign in Virginia and participated in many engagements on the Peninsula. Some of the more important battles of that campaign in which Mr. Gibbs participated were Yorktown, Lees Mills, Dam No. 2, Fair Oaks, Grapevine Bridge, Seven Pines, Ganes Farm, Cold Harbor, Front of Richmond, Mechanicville, Seven Days Fight and the Second Battle of Bull Run. Mr. Gibbs' second enlistment was with General Meade, under whose command he participated in the battles of Antietam, Fredericksburg, Marys Heights, Chancellorsville, Winchester, Cedar Creek, Mount Jackson, The Wilderness, Spottsylvania, Bermuda Hundred and Petersburg.

After the war James Gibbs lived on his father's New York farm a few years and about 1870 came West and located in Le Sueur county, Minnesota. There he worked at the carpenter's trade and at farming until 1882, worked at his trade in Minneapolis until 1893, and in Marshall until 1904. Since then he has lived a retired life. Elenora (Smith) Gibbs, the mother of our subject, is also a native of Post Creek, New York.

Four children of James Gibbs' family are living: Eva (Mrs. A. T. Drew), of Marshall; Rose (Mrs. D. N. Hunt), of Minneapolis; Pina (Mrs. H. S. Corning), of Minneapolis; and Cassius, of this biography.

OSMUND N. MITCHELL (1900), of Shelburne township, owns and farms 360 acres of the precinct's fertile soil. He is not a pioneer resident of Lyon county but he has prospered and is rated as one of the substantial farmers. His home place is the northwest quarter of section 33, on the southern boundary of the county.

The gentleman whose name heads this sketch was born near Stavanger, Norway, April 26, 1866. His father, Nels Mikkelsen, died in 1887; his mother, Ingeborg (Osmundson) Mikkelsen, two years later. Until he was sixteen years of age young Mitchell attended the schools of his native land. Then he spent four years working as a farm laborer, three years for an uncle and one year on the home place.

In 1887 Mr. Mitchell came to America. The first two years in the New World were spent working on the railroad in Livingston county, Illinois; then he worked at farm labor in Lasalle county two years. He was married in 1891 and moved to Kossuth county, Iowa, where he bought land and engaged in farming until 1900.

In the spring of that year Mr. Mitchell came to Lyon county and purchased 200 acres of land on the west half of section 33, Shelburne township, upon which he has ever since resided. In the fall of 1910 he purchased the southeast quarter of section 32, making him a farm of 360 acres. Mr. Mitchell raises considerable stock, including Hereford cattle, Duroc-Jersey hogs and Barred Plymouth Rock chickens.

Mr. Mitchell is interested in several other enterprises. He has stock in the State Bank of Florence, the Farmers Elevator Company of Ruthton, and the Independent Harvester Company of Plano, Illinois. He has been treasurer of school district No. 57 for the past ten years.

The marriage of Mr. Mitchell to Lena Olson occurred in Streator, Illinois, December 26, 1890. Mrs. Mitchell was born in Norway April 30, 1875, the daughter of Andrew and Martha (Severson) Olson. The head of the family came to America in 1886 and the rest of the family in 1890. They lived in Lasalle county, Illinois, and Kossuth county, Iowa, and in 1903 moved to Cottonwood county, Minnesota, where they now reside. Mrs. Mitchell has two brothers, Severt Olson, of Cot-

tonwood county, and John Olson, of Lac qui Parle county. Mr. Mitchell has one brother, James, of Kossuth county, Iowa.

Ten children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Mitchell, as follows: Ida, of Elma, Washington, born November 11, 1891; Mary, born September 23, 1893; Moses, born November 18, 1895; Hannah, born August 14, 1897; Jennie, deceased, born March 18, 1899; Esther, born December 24, 1901; Frances, born April 21, 1903; Oscar, born February 24, 1906; Genevieve, deceased, born April 11, 1909; Levain, born April 6, 1911. All except the oldest child reside at home.

PHILIP HOFNER (1905), proprietor of a Tracy meat market, has been a resident of that city since April, 1905. The shop, which is largely in the management of his two sons, Charlie and Paul, is situated on the corner of Third and Morgan Streets, and the proprietor handles all kinds of fresh and salt meats.

Philip Hofner was born in Germany January 23, 1851, and came to America when a boy of sixteen. He settled in Dubuque, Iowa, and lived in that state until moving to Tracy. Learning the butcher business soon after his arrival in this country, young Hofner started in business for himself and conducted a meat market during all the years he was a resident of Iowa.

He was married in Dubuque to Lizzie Liebarnt, a native of the city in which she was married. Eight children were born to them, as follows: Lena, William, Barney, Louise, Lizzie, Loui, Charlie and Paul.

Charlie Hofner, who with his brother Paul manages his father's market, was born at Oelwein, Iowa, December 31, 1883. Paul was also born at Oelwein, on July 28, 1889. While young boys the family moved to Riceville, Iowa, where the children received their early education and where they were taken into their father's market and taught the butcher business. When the elder Mr. Hofner bought the shop of Lynch & Shellhorn in Tracy the boys came from Iowa to help conduct the business. At that time the shop occupied the building which now houses the Fitch

music store, and it was later moved to its present location.

PHIL CARON (1883) assists his brother Leon conduct the farm on the southeast quarter of section 4, Grandview township. He was born in Kankakee county, Illinois, October 15, 1875, and was brought up on his father's farm.

The parents of our subject were Theodore and Julia (Constantine) Caron, natives of Canada, having been born in Three Rivers and Louisville, respectively. They were early settlers of Kankakee county, Mr. Caron moving there when twenty-two years of age. He soon after married and he and his family lived in Illinois until coming to Lyon county in 1883. Mr. Caron is still living on his old farm on the southeast quarter of section 4 with his sons Leon and Phil and his daughter Marie. His wife died in 1899, aged sixty-six years.

Phil has always lived at home with the family and has had a continuous residence on the Grandview township farm with the exception of three years when the family lived in St. Paul. He was married in Ghent on January 15, 1900, to Vitiline Paradis, a native of Canada and a daughter of Teles Paradis, a farmer living south of Marshall. Mrs. Caron died May 15, 1900, at the age of twenty-one years.

Phil Caron has the following sisters and brothers living: Lizzie (Mrs. Louis Regnier), Bertha (widow of I. R. Patriaude), Cecile (Mrs. George Regnier), Marie, who lives at home; and Leon, who conducts the home farm with his brother.

CARL LINDSTROM (1898), proprietor of the Marshall Steam Laundry, was born in Sweden December 19, 1867. He secured his education and spent his boyhood days in the old country working on a farm. He came to America in 1886 and for five years worked in the Pullman car shops in Chicago. He then learned the laundry business and was the manager of a laundry in Chicago for several years.

Mr. Lindstrom located in Marshall in 1898, bought the laundry of Gieseke, Sullivan & Addison, installed new machinery throughout, and has since conducted the business.

He has installed porcelain tubs and conducts a bath house in connection. Mr. Lindstrom is a member of the Masonic and Modern Woodmen lodges.

The parents of our subject are Johannes Carlson and Mary Katherina Carlson, who reside in Sweden. Five children of the family, Alfred, Gustaf, Carl, Frank and Otto, reside in the United States, while August, Adolph and Emma live in Sweden.

WILLIAM C. PALMER (1897), of Coon Creek township, was born in Marshall county, Illinois, July 14, 1867, a son of E. B. and Gurtrud (Vincent) Palmer, both natives of New York. When two years of age William accompanied his parents to Keokuk county, Iowa, where he received his education and grew to manhood. In 1888 he rented land in Iowa and started farming for himself.

In 1897 Mr. Palmer came to Lyon county and purchased land in Coon Creek township. He owns a fine farm of 280 acres and raises considerable stock, including Hereford cattle and Poland China hogs. Mr. Palmer is a stockholder in the following enterprises: Farmers Elevator Company of Russell, Tyler Telephone Company and the American Hereford Cattle Association of Kansas City, Missouri. He is chairman of the Township Board and clerk of school district No. 76. He holds membership in the Masonic lodge, being a charter member of McKinley Lodge of Tyler.

At What Cheer, Iowa, December 27, 1888, Mr. Palmer was married to Minnie Lawrence, a native of Iowa and a daughter of Dr. A. D. and Elizabeth (Thomas) Lawrence, natives of New York. Mr. and Mrs. Palmer are the parents of the following named children: Mildred, Ethel, Helen, Carrie and Rubey.

TENNES A. LENDE (1900) is a butcher and dealer in live stock in Cottonwood. He was born on his father's farm near Hanley Falls, Minnesota, August 23, 1874, a son of Andrew O. and Martha M. (Hanson) Lende, natives of Norway. They settled in Minnesota in an early day. They resided in Yellow Medicine county until 1895, when the father moved to Cottonwood and engaged in

the live stock business. In 1900 the family moved to Cottonwood. Mr. Lende died October 9, 1905, aged fifty-nine years. The mother resides in Cottonwood.

Tennes spent his boyhood days in Yellow Medicine county. There he received his education, completing it with a course, in 1893-94, in the Willmar Seminary. He lived on the farm until 1900, when he accompanied his parents to Lyon county and located at Cottonwood. There he engaged in the butcher and live stock business with his father, taking full charge after his father's death. He has conducted the business since that time with the exception of twenty-one months, when Keehn Brothers were in charge. He again bought the business in 1910.

Mr. Lende is a stockholder of the First National Bank and of the North Star Implement Company. He served three terms on the Cottonwood Village Council. He holds membership in the following lodges: Masonic, Modern Woodmen, Eastern Star and Maccabees.

Our subject is a brother of State Senator O. A. Lende. He has five brothers and five sisters: Senator Olai A., Tennes A., Minnie (Mrs. W. L. Gray), Lorinda, Mattie, Elmer, Mihlo, Elfta, Rebecca, Corillan and Norman.

Mr. Lende was married in Cottonwood November 9, 1910, to Daisy Edna Gibb, a resident of that village and a native of Lyon county. She was born May 21, 1884, and is a daughter of J. F. Gibb, an early settler of the county.

MRS. KATHERINE McMAHON (1884), of Eidsvold township, is the widow of Joseph James McMahon, one of the early day settlers of the township. Her maiden name was Katherine O'Connor and she was born in Washtenaw county, Michigan, November 7, 1862. Her father, James O'Connor, was born in Michigan and her mother, Sarah (McLaughlin) O'Connor, was born in Rhode Island. The former died in 1892 and the latter in 1907. Miss O'Connor received her education and grew to womanhood in her native state, and in 1882 she was united in marriage to Mr. McMahon.

Joseph James McMahon was also a native of Michigan and was born January 15, 1855. His father, Francis McMahon, and his mother,

er, Mary (McGar) McMahon, came to Lyon county in 1882 and located in Eidsvold township, where they resided until their deaths. Mrs. McMahon died on Christmas Day, 1893, and Mr. McMahon on December 11, 1908.

In his native state James McMahon grew to man's estate. He was married in 1882, and in the spring of 1884, largely as a result of the advertising matter sent out by the Catholic colonization people, he and his wife came to Lyon county and bought land in the extreme northwestern corner of the county, on section 6, Eidsvold. There he resided until his death, which occurred January 13, 1905, and there his family still lives.

To Mr. and Mrs. James McMahon the following named children were born: William Francis, born January 5, 1883; Mary Elizabeth, born March 5, 1885; Margaret Ellen, deceased, born December 17, 1887; Zita Ann (Mrs. Edward Buckley), of Minneota, born February 28, 1889; Katherine, deceased, born May 16, 1891; Joseph, born May 2, 1895; Katherine Ann, born June 28, 1898; Lucy Ellen, born December 20, 1900. The family are members of the Catholic church of Minneota.

EDWARD DE CLERK (1890), senior proprietor of the Marshall Bottling Works, was born in Holland August 15, 1868, and is a son of Bernard De Clerk and Mary (De Smet) De Clerk. Edward has one brother, Peter, living in Indiana, and a sister, Rosa, residing in Fargo, North Dakota. His parents came to this country from Holland in 1892 and live in Marshall.

Edward De Clerk came to the United States in 1889 and lived eight months in New York before settling in Westerheim township, Lyon county, in December, 1890. There he made his home for the next four years, then bought 200 acres in Clifton and Stanley townships, and farmed for himself until the spring of 1911, when he rented his place and moved to Marshall. In March, 1911, Mr. De Clerk and Emery Fuller bought the Marshall Bottling Works and deep water well from A. C. Porter and are continuing the business under that name. They bottle all kinds of carbonated drinks and find a large market for the celebrated Silver Springs water.

Our subject was married in Europe in 1900

to Leonie Van De Veire. Three children were born to this union, all of whom are dead. The wife died in 1910. Mr. De Clerk was married a second time, to Emma De-fever, a native of Belgium. Our subject is a member of the Catholic church.

MILTON S. CLARK (1905) is a farmer and owner of Lyon county real estate and resides in Rock Lake township. He farms 162 acres of land on the north edge of the precinct.

Mr. Clark was born near Creighton, Nebraska, May 13, 1886, received his early education in the common schools of that state, and later took a course in Wayne College, of Wayne, Nebraska. After working out on farms in his native state for a time, he came to Lyon county in 1905, worked on farms for awhile, and then engaged in the livery business at Lynd one winter. For a few months he worked in the horse barns of William B. Peniston at Marshall and then for a time worked out at various forms of labor.

In 1910 Mr. Clark started in business for himself and has since been engaged in farming in Rock Lake. He raises Holstein and Shorthorn cattle and Poland China hogs. He has been quite successful in his undertakings.

Gladys Blanchard became the wife of Mr. Clark December 7, 1910. She was born in Rock Lake township June 22, 1890, a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. A. L. Blanchard, pioneers of the county. One child was born to Mr. and Mrs. Clark, Ruby, born May 1, 1912, and died the following day.

Edward and Hattie (Hughton) Clark, the parents of our subject, were born in Wisconsin and Kansas, respectively, and are now residents of the last named commonwealth. Milton is one of a family of eleven children, the others being as follows: Walter, a veteran of the Spanish-American War and now a resident of Brockton, Montana; Frank, of Sioux City, Iowa; George, of Rock Lake township; Charles, of Norfolk, Nebraska; Harry, of South Sioux City, Iowa; Roland and Warren, of Rock Lake township; and Harley, Oscar, Grace and Nina, all of Norfolk, Nebraska.

REV. HENRY VICTOR VAN WALLEGHEM (1905), pastor of the Catholic Church of St. Eloi in Ghent, was born in Belgium March 18, 1866. He received his education in the schools and colleges of his native land. After a course at Bruges he was ordained a priest, and at Louvain he later studied philosophy, taking a post-graduate course in that subject and in science.

Rev. Van Wallegheem was graduated from Louvain in 1892, and, returning to Bruges, he was a teacher of mathematics and the sciences in the college until 1903. In the latter year he came to America and spent six months in Rochester, New York, as assistant pastor of the Franco-Belgian church, Our Lady of Victory, in that city.

In the latter part of 1903 Rev. Van Wallegheem was called to the assistant pastorate of St. Luke's Parish in St. Paul, where he remained one year. He was then sent to Ghent to take charge of the Church of St. Eloi, where he has since served.

WILLIAM C. AHERN (1884), farmer of Eidsvold township, has resided in that precinct since he was eleven years of age. He was born in Sangamon county, Illinois, May 6, 1873, and in 1884 he came with his parents to Lyon county. The father purchased land on section 8, Eidsvold, and eventually became the owner of the whole section.

William lived on the home farm until 1903, engaging with his brothers in its management after the father's death in 1896. In 1903 he was married and bought the northwest quarter of section 22 and forty acres on section 21. He moved to his new home, improved the place, and has since made his home there. Mr. Ahern served one term as a member of the township board.

Garrett and Kate (Brown) Ahern, the parents of our subject, were born in Ireland and came to America when children. They resided in Springfield, Sangamon county, Illinois, for many years and after 1884 in Lyon county. Garrett Ahern died on the farm November 27, 1896; his widow still lives on the home farm with her son James and two daughters. There were thirteen children in the family, of whom the following named ten are living: Philip P., of Taunton; Josie, Nell (Mrs. Thomas Walsh), of Fargo, North Dakota; William C., of this

biography; James, who farms the home place; Mike F., cashier of the State Bank of Taunton; Katherine (Mrs. Maurice Breen), of Minneapolis; Thomas G., a banker, of Hampden, North Dakota; Garrett, a merchant of Taunton; and Annie, a school teacher.

William C. Ahern was married in Marshall June 10, 1903, to Mamie Breen, a native of Missouri and a daughter of John Breen, one of the prominent farmers of Westerheim township. Mr. and Mrs. Ahern have five children: Margaret, Lucile, Evelyn, Joseph and Eleanor.

VICTOR VERGAUWE (1909) is the senior member of the firm which owns the City Meat Market of Marshall. He was born in Flanders, Belgium, September 29, 1880, and there he was educated and resided until twenty-two years of age. During the next six years he was engaged in working at the butcher trade in various towns of Belgium, Germany and France.

From the city of Paris Mr. Vergauwe departed for the United States, arriving in New York in October, 1908. For some time he was employed as a meat cutter in a New York shop at the corner of Sixth Avenue and Twenty-fourth Street. Mr. Vergauwe took up his residence in Marshall in October, 1909, at which time he bought the City Meat Market. He carried on the business alone until March 21, 1911, when he took as a partner Cyrille Feryn. The partners deal in all kinds of fresh and salt meats, fish, etc.

Mr. Vergauwe is not married. He is the son of Jacob and Clemens (Jacksons) Vergauwe, both of whom died in their native land. Victor is the youngest in a family of seven children, the others being: Camille, Jule, Leon, Henry, Louise and Pharaïlde. Leon Vergauwe lives in Marshall, Henry in Edmonton, Alberta, Canada, the other children in Belgium.

CHARLES W. CADY (1892) is the efficient mail carrier on the Lynd route. Mr. Cady is one of the oldest carriers in point of service in the state of Minnesota, having been in the service twelve years—ten years as regular carrier and two years as substitute.

He is a native of Vermont and was born at Williston on April 11, 1860.

Our subject received his early education in the district schools of Vermont, later attending Essex Classical Institute of Vermont, where he finished at twenty-two years of age. He then traveled for two years in Pennsylvania, New York and Ohio for a drug house; after which he clerked and worked at farm labor until 1892. In that year he came to Lyon county, worked two years for O. C. Gregg and one year for the state on the Coteau Farm. Later he moved to Camden and purchased ten acres of land and engaged in truck-farming, which occupation he followed until he was burned out in 1905.

Mr. Cady is a member of the Methodist church of Lynd and is recording steward of the church. He was director of school district No. 14 for three years. He has a comfortable home and several lots in the village of Lynd.

On March 21, 1892, Mr. Cady was united in marriage to Bessie Gregg Mosher, a daughter of William E. and Julia A. (Bowers) Mosher, of Vermont. Mrs. Cady is a native of Vermont and was born at St. Albans Bay June 17, 1862. They have an adopted daughter, Mrs. Andrew Larson, of Hamill, South Dakota.

Mr. Cady's grandfather was a veteran of the War of 1812, and some of his other ancestors were in the Revolutionary War.

DR. EARL L. HALL (1902) is a physician and druggist of Russell. He is a native of the Badger state and was born at Eau Claire May 26, 1877. He is a son of Frank A. and Nancy M. (McIntosh) Hall, the former a native of Massachusetts and the latter of Maine. Mrs. Hall died in 1905. The father resides at San Francisco. They were the parents of two sons: Dr. E. L., of this sketch, and Neale C., of Lead, South Dakota. The latter is county treasurer of Lawrence county.

Our subject was graduated from the Eau Claire High School in the modern classical course. He later attended the Medical Department of the University of Minnesota, from which he was graduated in 1902. After that he was house physician in the Minneapolis City Hospital one year.

Dr. Hall came to Lyon county in 1902 and located at Russell for the practice of his profession. He has practised there continuously since that date and has been very successful. In April, 1911, he purchased the C. J. Wimer drug store at Russell. He has put up a splendid building next to the post-office and has one of the neatest and best arranged drug stores in this section of the state.

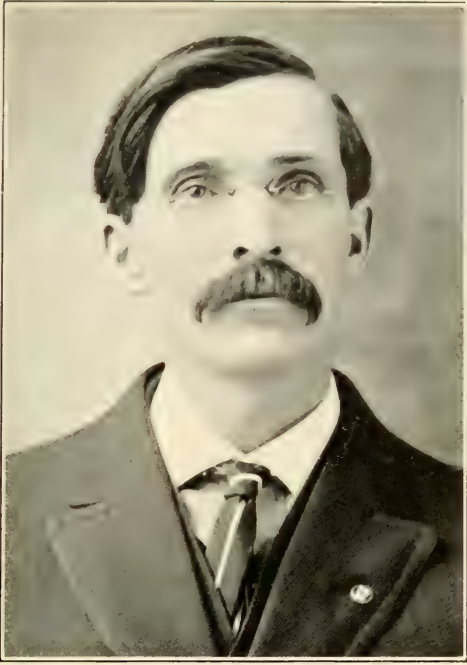
Dr. Hall holds membership in the Masonic and Modern Woodmen lodges and has served as master of Coteau Lodge No. 244 two years. He has been a member of the Village Council of Russell the past six years and was president of that body three years.

Our subject was married at Eau Claire April 28, 1906, to Florence Pickett, a native of that place. They are the parents of two children, Robert and Richard.

EVAN M. JONES (1897) is the proprietor of a general merchandise store at Garvin, postmaster of that village, editor of the Garvin Leader, and interested in several other enterprises of his town. He has resided in the county fifteen years and has become prominently identified with Garvin's business and social interests. During the entire forty-five years of his life he has lived in Minnesota.

Our subject was born in Blue Earth county January 19, 1867, and spent his early years there. He was educated in the Mankato Normal School and at the age of seventeen years began teaching school, which he followed several years. He located in Murray county in 1890 and for seven years engaged in farming. Mr. Jones became a resident of Lyon county in 1897, when he located at Russell and established a general merchandise store. One year later he disposed of that and engaged in business in Garvin, being the third merchant to become established in that village. He erected at that time the building in which he has since conducted the business.

Mr. Jones has served as postmaster of Garvin since September, 1900, and he has edited the Garvin Leader since June, 1911. He is treasurer of the Garvin Creamery Company, secretary of the local Board of Education, and one of the directors of



EVAN M. JONES

Postmaster, Merchant and Editor of Garvin.



FRANK D. PINCKNEY

Cashier of the Farmers State Bank of Garvin.



CHARLES W. CADY

One of Minnesota's First Rural Mail Carriers.



DR. E. L. HALL

Physician and Druggist of Russell.



the Farmers State Bank of Garvin. Fraternally he is a Mason and a Woodman.

In Blue Earth county, on October 19, 1889, Mr. Jones was wedded to Maggie J. Williams. She was born in Wisconsin and died March 7, 1901, at the age of thirty-two years. As a result of this union three children were born, Allen, Benjamin and Margaret. The second marriage of Mr. Jones occurred May 30, 1902, when he wedded Clara Helleson, a native of Lyon county and a daughter of Clemet Helleson, an early settler. Mr. and Mrs. Jones have two children, Mabel and Vivian.

The subject of this biography is of Welsh descent. His father, William P. Jones, was born in Wales July 15, 1828, came to the United States in 1847, lived in Jackson county, Ohio, until 1856, and then became a resident of Blue Earth county, Minnesota. There he became a prominent citizen. He was a member of the Home Guards at the time of the Indian War, and in 1877 he served as a member of the Minnesota Legislature. He died at Lake Crystal May 28, 1908. Our subject's mother, Margaret (Walters) Jones, was born in Wales in 1831 and now resides at Lake Crystal. There were sixteen children in the family, of whom the following named thirteen are living: John, William, Ursula, Maggie, Ann, Mary, Stephen, Thomas, Elizabeth, Evan M., Walter, Samuel and Dorothy.

FRANK D. PINCKNEY (1905) is cashier of the Farmers State Bank of Garvin and a member of the Garvin Real Estate Company. He is a native of Illinois and was born in Astoria February 25, 1882, a son of Howel and Mame (Watkins) Pinckney, the former a native of New York and the latter of Wisconsin. They reside at Lake Benton. There are four children in the family: Frank D., of this sketch; Watkin T., of Lynchburg, Virginia; Leon and Jennette, who reside at home. Mr. Pinckney, Sr., has a national reputation as an auctioneer.

When two years of age Frank accompanied his parents to Western Kansas, where they resided eight years, returning at the end of that period to Fulton county, Illinois, where they lived five years and

where Frank attended school. They then moved to Pike county, Missouri, where they farmed for two and one-half years, after which they moved to Lake Benton, Minnesota, near which place they farmed and where Frank completed his schooling. In June, 1905, our subject moved to Garvin and entered the Lyon County Bank as cashier, a position he held until that bank was absorbed by the Farmers State Bank. Since that time he has held the position of cashier of the last named institution. Mr. Pinckney holds membership in the Modern Woodmen and Elks lodges.

Mr. Pinckney was married June 16, 1909, to Winnie Lybarger, a native of St. Charles, Minnesota.

JOHN KNUDSON (1899) is one of the progressive farmers of Eidsvold township residing a few miles north of Minneota. He owns the north half of the northeast quarter of section 14 and the north half of the northwest quarter of section 13.

John Knudson's parents, Knut Follinglo and Gertrude Follinglo, are dead. Our subject is the only one of the family living in America. The others are Knute, Carrie, Mary and Annie.

In Norway, on January 14, 1859, John Knudson was born. He attended school and spent his boyhood days on his father's farm. In May, 1884, he came to America, lived two years at Glencoe, Minnesota, and then took up his residence in Minneapolis, where he resided for the next thirteen years. During that period of residence he worked for the Standard Oil Company, in a planing mill, and for a piano house.

Mr. Knudson came to Lyon county in 1899, rented the farm he now owns two years, and then purchased it. At the time he became the owner the only improvements the farm boasted were a little shack and a few cottonwood trees. Now it is one of the best improved farms of the township, containing a two-story, eight-room house, barn and other buildings, fences, groves, and a brick tile silo of ninety-ton capacity, erected in the summer of 1912. Mr. Knudson is one of the first four farmers in Lyon county to erect a silo of this kind. The others are John O'Connor, Helge Helgeson and Andrew Jacobson. Mr. Knudson intends to engage

extensively in the feeding of cattle and hogs.

The marriage of our subject to Marie T. Swennes occurred in Minneapolis May 14, 1892. She was born in Norway and came to the United States in 1889. Mr. and Mrs. Knudson have nine sons and one daughter, named as follows: George, Ingwald, Edwin, Martin, Knute, Theodore, Otto, Johann, Andrew and Gertrude. The family are members of the Norwegian Lutheran church of Minneota. Mr. Knudson has been township supervisor the past six years.

A. C. DALE (1893) is the proprietor of a blacksmith and repair shop in Minneota. He was born in Medina county, Ohio, June 27, 1858, a son of Sarah L. (Harris) Dale, a native of Ohio. Our subject was the only child. The mother was married a second time to C. M. Hopkins. To this union have been born the following seven children: William, Edward, Forest, Bertrand, Nettie, Hattie and Susie. Mr. and Mrs. Hopkins reside at Rochester, Minnesota.

Our subject accompanied his parents when a child to Michigan, Iowa, and later to Olmsted county, Minnesota. At the latter place he grew to manhood and learned the blacksmith's trade. After finishing his apprenticeship he conducted shops at the following places: Orien Mills, Minnesota; Grand Meadows, Minnesota; Douglas Station, Minnesota; Hadley, Minnesota; Ireton, Iowa; Rochester, Minnesota; and Slayton, Minnesota.

In the spring of 1893 our subject came to Lyon county and located at Tracy, where he conducted a blacksmith shop until March, 1895. He then moved to Minneota, where he has since conducted a shop, with the exception of three years spent at Des Moines, Iowa. At the latter place he was employed by his half-brothers, the Hopkins Brothers, who conducted a bicycle and repair shop. Mr. Dale is a member of the M. W. A. lodge.

Mr. Dale was married in Murray county June 11, 1882, to Mary E. Luce, a native of Pennsylvania. Mr. and Mrs. Dale are the parents of seven children: Maud, William, Anna, Hattie, Hazel, Earl and Norma.

JULIUS T. DAHL (1908) is the proprietor of a photograph gallery at Marshall. He was

born in Winona county, Minnesota, but when a child accompanied his parents to Richland county, North Dakota, where he resided on a farm until twenty-five years of age. He then learned photography and later conducted a gallery at Mayville, North Dakota, three years. The next four years were spent in the business at Kindred, North Dakota. Then, in 1908 he located in Marshall, conducted a gallery in the Opera House Block a short time, and then bought the Oftey gallery in the rooms over the Hollo store, where he has since been.

Mr. Dahl is the son of Tom Olson and Mary (Uldrickson) Olson. His parents were born in Norway, located at Winona upon their arrival to America, and now reside at Walcott, Richland county, North Dakota. There are five children in the family, as follows: Rhoda, Ole, Julius T., Theodore and Martin.

In North Dakota, during the month of June, 1897, Mr. Dahl was united in marriage to Carrie Fatland. To this union have been born the following named daughters: Clarissa, Mabel, Louisa and Dora.

WILSON HERRON (1904) is a farmer and land owner of Rock Lake township. He was born in Newton county, Indiana, August 1, 1872. His parents, Samuel and Elenor (Waren) Herron, were born in Ohio, moved to Indiana during the Civil War, and resided in that state until their deaths.

Wilson attended the schools of the Hoosier State until seventeen years of age and from that time until he was twenty-two he conducted the home farm. He operated a livery barn at Morocco, Indiana, four years, and for three years thereafter he engaged in farming near that place.

Mr. Herron engaged in farming in Pocahontas county, Iowa, eight months and in the fall of 1904 came to Lyon county, where he has since farmed. He purchased his present place, the northwest quarter of section 20, in 1908. Mr. Herron is a member of the Methodist church of Balaton and he has been a director of school district No. 18 for the past three years.

At Rensselaar, Indiana, on November 15, 1896, Mr. Herron was married to Cora Brown. His wife was born in Jasper county, Indiana, April 3, 1874. To them have been born the

following named five children: Estal, deceased; Cleo, Beryl, Palmer and Chester.

WILLIAM H. CARROLL (1909), now a retired farmer and a former proprietor of the Exchange Hotel of Tracy, is one of the new residents. Mr. Carroll purchased the hotel property in October, 1909, from Edward Meyer and in January, 1910, moved here from Illinois and took charge of the business. In August, 1911, he rented the building and furnishings to J. S. Bartlett & Son, who have since conducted it.

Mr. Carroll farmed in Illinois for many years prior to coming to Minnesota. He was born at Kinderhook, Columbia county, New York, February 12, 1861, his parents being John and Margaret (Reid), Carroll. His mother died in May, 1901, and his father in 1909. The Carroll family moved to Illinois in 1865 and engaged in farming, the father and mother residing on the farm at the time of their deaths.

Our subject attended the common schools in Dekalb county, Illinois, in his early youth, and later attended the high school at Malta, where he was graduated at the age of twenty-one. He then engaged in farming in Dekalb county until 1910, at which time he moved to Tracy, having purchased the hotel property there the previous year. Before moving to Tracy he disposed of his Illinois interests. Mr. Carroll held the office of school director for a number of years before leaving Illinois.

On March 28, 1898, at Chicago, William H. Carroll was married to Mary Fischer, a native of Switzerland. She was born March 26, 1865, a daughter of Christian and Katharina (Spiech) Fischer, both of whom died in the old country. Mrs. Carroll has one child, Mamie H. (Mrs. Frank Bzoskie), of Tracy. Mat Zehman and Frank Fischer, two brothers of Mrs. Carroll, live in Chicago. Mr. Carroll has one sister, Mary (Mrs. Frank Young), who lives in Malta, Illinois.

GEORGE B. CUTLER (1900), of Lake Marshall township, was born in Marshall, Wisconsin, August 10, 1881, a son of George W. and Laura (Mayhew) Cutler, who located in Lyon county in 1900. Mr. Cutler, Sr., died in February, 1905. The mother and two

daughters, Fannie and Ruby, reside in Marshall. Another daughter resides in Tracy and a son at Athol, South Dakota.

Practically the first twenty years of our subject's life were spent in and near Marshall, Wisconsin, with his parents. It was there that he received his schooling and grew to manhood. In 1900 he accompanied his parents to Lyon county and spent the first year working south of Marshall. For the past ten years Mr. Cutler has operated the home farm. He holds membership in the M. W. A. lodge at Dudley, Minnesota, is a stockholder and secretary of the Lake Marshall Rural Telephone Company, and is a stockholder of the Lyon County Agricultural Association. Mr. Cutler is a breeder of Black Polled Angus cattle and Duroc-Jersey hogs, with which he has taken prizes for several years at the Lyon county fair.

May 18, 1910, Mr. Cutler was married to Mabel M. French, a daughter of LeRoy and Clara French, of Chatfield, Minnesota.

OSCAR A. BURLINGAME (1898) is the proprietor of a Minneota restaurant and a member of the Yeomen lodge of that village. He was born in Warren county, Iowa, August 19, 1874. When he was eight-years of age he accompanied his parents to Polk county, Nebraska, lived there three years, on a homestead in Keith county, Nebraska, five years, and then accompanied his parents back to Warren county, Iowa.

Mr. Burlingame farmed in Warren county seven years, was proprietor of a butcher shop in New Virginia, Iowa, one year, and in 1898 came to Lyon county. He worked out one summer and then engaged in farming and operating a threshing machine until 1906. That year he located in Minneota, where he engaged in the following lines of work: bought cream one summer, worked in a furniture store eighteen months, and worked in a butcher shop sixteen months. In April, 1911, Mr. Burlingame purchased the McGinn restaurant, which he still conducts.

Mr. Burlingame was married in Warren county, Iowa, February 7, 1900, to Emma E. Nevins, a native of Illinois. She moved to Warren county, Iowa, when a child. Mr. and Mrs. Burlingame have one child, Raymond A., born September 17, 1909.

The parents of our subject are Josiah and

Rachael (Lamb) Burlingame, the former a native of Iowa and the latter of Ohio. They reside at Bristol, South Dakota. Their children are Oscar A., Alta, Malissia, Lena and Christmas.

REV. TH. TYCHSEN (1909) has been pastor of the Evangelical Lutheran church of Tracy since July, 1909. In addition to his Tracy charge Rev. Tychsen on alternate Sundays supplies the German Lutheran pulpits at Walnut Grove and Cobden. During the winter the pastor conducts confirmation classes among his congregations.

Rev. Tychsen was born in Schleswig-Holstein, Germany, October 21, 1882. His parents were Peter J. and Brigitta Amalia (Lorenzen) Tychsen, both of whom are still living in Schleswig-Holstein, Germany. Our subject received his early education in Germany, attending both German and Danish schools and mastering the two languages. At the age of fifteen years he took up farm labor for a few years, later attending the German Ministers Seminary near Husum, Schleswig-Holstein, Germany, two years.

The opportunity to come to America, for which he had been waiting, came in 1905, and the close of that year found our subject in St. Paul, a student at the German Lutheran Seminary. The intervening years until the ordination of the young pastor on June 20, 1909, were divided between study at the seminary and various pulpits which he was called upon to supply. During the winter of 1907 and 1908 our subject had charge of five congregations near Regina, Saskatchewan, Canada. He was there seven months before returning to his work at the seminary. In the summer of 1906 he had charge of the German Lutheran congregation of Pine Valley, Wisconsin, and another time had charge of three congregations in Wisconsin, namely, the Burlington, Lyons and Elkhorn churches. Soon after the pastor's ordination he accepted the call to the Tracy church. Since taking the Tracy church Rev. Tychsen has served as assistant secretary of the Minnesota district of the Evangelical Lutheran Joint Synod of Ohio and other states.

Rev. Tychsen was married July 15, 1909, at Morgan, Minnesota, to Lilly Kamholz, a native of Minnesota. She was born May 18, 1888. The Tychsens had one daughter,

Brigitta Wilhelmina Victoria, born October 18, 1910, and died January 24, 1911.

THOMAS R. DOHERTY (1902) is the owner of 347 acres of land in Monroe township and is interested in various enterprises. He is a stockholder of and was one of the organizers of the Farmers Elevator Company of Tracy and served as the first president, holding the position four years. He was also one of the organizers and the first president of the Farmers Co-operative Creamery Company of Tracy.

Mr. Doherty was born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, March 26, 1855, and is a son of Simon and Bride (Carbery) Doherty, both of whom died in 1901. The parents were early settlers of Illinois, where they lived nineteen years and then moved to Franklin county, Iowa, where they made their home until their deaths. Thomas received his education in Illinois and at the age of twenty-one years accompanied his family to Iowa. That state was his home for the next twenty-four years, and with the exception of several years spent in teaching he was engaged in farming. He acquired considerable land, but in 1901 he sold his Iowa interests and purchased land in Monroe township, Lyon county, where he has since resided.

Mr. Doherty was married January 24, 1886, at Iowa Falls, Iowa, to Ruth Eveline Crandall, a native of Marquette, Wisconsin. She was born August 14, 1863, and is a daughter of De Witt and Diana (Lyon) Crandall, both of whom are deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Doherty have four children: Fayette Carbery, a graduate of the University of Minnesota; Cecil Walter, a student at the University; Leila Ruth, a student of the Tracy High School; and Cora Esther, born August 23, 1906.

Our subject is a member of the Presbyterian church. He is also a member of the Farmers Club of Tracy, and fraternally he is allied with the Modern Woodmen lodge.

JOSEPH C. WOODRUFF (1902) is the proprietor of a dray and transfer line in Marshall. He is a native of Minnesota, having been born in Prescott township, Fairbault county, on April 10, 1871. His parents are Wallace A. and Sarah (Snyder) Wood-

ruff, who reside in Marshall and are natives of Vermont and Illinois, respectively. There is one other child in the family, Frank Woodruff.

Joseph was brought up on his father's farm and resided on the farm of his birth until his arrival to Lyon county in 1902, with the exception of nine months spent working for the Northwestern Railroad Company and three months, when he operated a billiard hall at Winnebago City. Upon his arrival to Lyon county he spent one year in Marshall and for the next year and a half conducted a general store at Milroy. He then conducted his father's farm, twelve miles northeast of Marshall, one season, and since that time he has lived in Marshall. He worked on the dray line for Al Dewitt, C. M. Hanks and Bert Blakesley, and on January 20, 1906, he established the business which he has since followed. Mr. Woodruff is a member of the M. W. A. and Yeomen lodges.

The marriage of Joseph Woodruff to Margaret McCue occurred in Prescott township, Faribault county, Minnesota, on September 16, 1895. She is a native of Ripon, Wisconsin. Four children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Woodruff, named as follows: Margaret B., Fay E., Joseph E. and Manerva C.

HENRY G. MOHR (1882), who farms 240 acres of land a short distance from Taunton, in Eidsvold township, has spent his entire life in Lyon county and is the son of a homesteader. The father, William Mohr, still lives on the farm he homesteaded in an early day; the mother, Emilie (Freiheit) Mohr, died May 10, 1909.

Henry Mohr was born in Eidsvold township July 25, 1882. He attended the district school until seventeen years of age and worked on his father's farm until his marriage in 1907. Since that time he has been farming for himself on section 20. He is a successful farmer and stock raiser.

The marriage of Mr. Mohr to Emma Sternke occurred in Eidsvold township September 26, 1907. She is a native of Wausau, Wisconsin, and was born August 13, 1887. Three children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Mohr, as follows: Alfred, born September 2, 1908, died September 26, 1908; Robert, born November 20, 1909; Esther, born December 16, 1911.

JOSEPH B. WILLIAMS (1905) is assistant cashier of the First State Bank of Russell. He was born in Watonwan county, Minnesota, November 30, 1885, the son of B. Williams and Carrie (Newgard) Williams. The parents came from Norway to the United States at early ages and both died here, the mother when Joseph was one year of age and the father in 1903.

After his mother's death Joseph was adopted by Mrs. Louise Johnson and spent his boyhood days in Faribault county. There he received his primary education, completing it with a course at St. Ansgar College, of St. Ansgar, Iowa, and a business course at the Mankato Business College.

In 1905 Mr. Williams moved to Russell and took a position with the First State Bank, a few months later being made assistant cashier. He is a member of the Masonic, Woodmen and Royal Neighbors lodges.

Mr. Williams has four brothers: William and Andrew, of Minneapolis; Christ, of Bricelyn, Minnesota; and Martin, of Glenwood, Minnesota.

RUDOLPH A. T. MEYER (1901) is the owner of one of the best farms in Vallers township. It is improved with a good set of buildings and is tiled and fenced. The farm consists of 240 acres and is described as the southeast quarter of section 20 and the north half of the southwest quarter of section 21. Mr. Meyer engages in general farming and raises Durham cattle and Chester White hogs.

Mr. Meyer's early life was spent in other occupations than farming, many years having been devoted to a mercantile career. He is a German by birth, having been born in the province of Mecklenburg June 2, 1852. When he was one year old he was brought by his parents, Ludvig F. and Caroline (Groth) Meyer, to America. The family home was made in Clayton county, Iowa, and there our subject grew to manhood. He received a good education, completing it with a course in a commercial college at Dubuque.

At the age of nineteen young Meyer started out in life for himself. He taught school in Clayton county four years and in 1875 he and J. W. Ward opened a general store at Postville, Iowa. For the next

eleven years they carried on the business under the firm name of Ward & Meyer. At the end of that time the stock was divided and Mr. Meyer, who had erected a store building, engaged in business alone. Two years later a fire destroyed his building and all except a small part of his stock. He closed out the business and turned farmer. After renting land for several years in Iowa, he came to Lyon county in 1901, bought his Vallers farm, and has since been engaged in its management.

Mr. Meyer served on the township board five years, was justice of the peace eight years, and has been treasurer of school district No. 48. He is a German Lutheran.

Bertha Bander and Rudolph Meyer became man and wife at Lansing, Iowa, on October 16, 1876. She is also a native of Germany and was born November 12, 1853. To them have been born seven children, named as follows: Amanda, the wife of H. F. Maroude; Rudolph, of Vallers township; Albert, deceased; Elsa, the wife of J. H. Johnson; Paul, of Roseau county, Minnesota; Malinda, the wife of Peter Paradis; and Ulrich, who lives with his parents.

JOHN WILSON (1897) is the proprietor of a livery and feed stable and engages in buying and selling horses in Marshall. He is a son of William and Lucita Wilson, the former a native of Pennsylvania and the latter of Ohio. The parents are both deceased.

John Wilson moved to Iowa in the spring of 1881. On November 28, 1888, he was married to Carrie Cleghorn, daughter of A. M. and Mary Cleghorn, of Gaza, Iowa, upon whose farm the town of Gaza is situated. In 1897 Mr. Wilson moved to Minnesota, located on a farm he had purchased in Custer township, Lyon county, and resided there three years. Then he moved to Marshall, purchased the William Thorburn livery stock and the old Blakesley barn, and for six years engaged in the livery business. At the end of that time he sold to B. Snyder.

Mr. Wilson then went to Sauk Center, where he conducted a barn six weeks, then to Cottonwood and conducted a barn one year. Later he went to Minneapolis, bought

a home on Fremont Avenue, and bought and sold horses five years. He returned to Marshall and purchased the Fred Watson barn, which he has since conducted. He still retains his Custer township farm, which he rents. Our subject is a member of the M. W. A. lodge.

TONY W. KAEICHELE (1902) is the proprietor of a furniture store and undertaking parlors in Tracy. He is a native of Revere, Minnesota, and was born May 20, 1879. His parents are Alouis and Annie (Schmid) Kaechele, natives of Germany. They settled at New Ulm in an early day. In the early seventies they immigrated to Redwood county and homesteaded land, where they lived until their deaths. They were the parents of the following children: Joseph, Louis, Tracy, Victoria and Tony.

When a boy our subject went to Springfield, where he grew to manhood and received his education. At fourteen years of age he entered a furniture store and clerked several years. He then attended the Chicago College of Embalming, from which he was graduated in 1896. The next two and one-half years were spent in the employ of a firm of undertakers in Minneapolis. In 1898, at the outbreak of the Spanish-American War, Mr. Kaechele enlisted in Company A, Twelfth Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, and was stationed at Chattanooga, Georgia Park and Louisville. After the war he went back to Springfield and worked in a furniture and undertaking establishment over three years.

The next move of our subject was to Tracy, where he worked for H. E. McAllister one year. Then he and his brother Louis opened a furniture store at Tracy under the firm name of Kaechele Brothers, which they conducted about three years. After that our subject in company with E. M. Schmid formed the Tracy Furniture Company. Messrs. Kaechele and Schmid conducted the store two years, when Kaechele Brothers again became the proprietors. They sold later to John Filkins. In January, 1911, the subject of this sketch opened a furniture store in the W. R. Edwards Building. He makes a specialty of

undertaking work and he is also in the repairing business. Mr. Kaechele holds membership in the M. W. A., A. O. U. W. and K. P. lodges.

On February 15, 1901, at Springfield, Minnesota, occurred the marriage of Mr. Kaechele to Cora D. Knudson, a native of that city. They are the parents of one child, Sylvia.

WILLIAM G. STORCK (1911) is a Lynd township farmer who is a comparatively new settler in Lyon county. He was born in Chicago April 3, 1870, a son of Philip and Katherine (Neitz) Storck. The father died in 1873; the mother resides with our subject.

William spent the first fourteen years of his life with his parents in Chicago, and it was there that he received his early education. When nine years old he apprenticed himself to a job printing firm and was so engaged until fifteen years of age. At fifteen he went to work as a farm hand near Hampshire, Illinois, where he worked for two and one-half years, and then went to Manhattan, Illinois, where he worked until 1893. From 1893 until 1896 he was engaged as a teamster in Chicago. He then farmed in Illinois until he came to Lyon county in 1911. Upon his arrival to Lyon county, Mr. Storck purchased 400 acres of land on section 1, Lynd township, the well-known Youmans Farm.

Mr. Storck is one of Lyon county's prosperous farmers, engaging extensively in raising and shipping stock, as well as general farming. He has stock in the Farmers Elevator Company of Marshall. During twelve years of his residence in Illinois Mr. Storck was a director of his school district. He is a member of the United Evangelical church.

In 1895 Mr. Storck was married to Mary Schaaf, a daughter of Henry and Agnes Schaaf, of Manhattan, Illinois. Mrs. Storck was born November 18, 1868, at Manhattan. They have one child, Norman, born July 20, 1896.

SIGURDUR B. ERICKSON (1885), assistant cashier of the Farmers & Merchants National Bank of Minneota, is a Minneota

product. He entered the employ of the bank as bookkeeper when he was eighteen years of age, and his integrity, attention to duty and good business instincts have earned him his present responsible position.

Sigurdur was born in Minneota September 24, 1885. His parents, Oddur and Elin (Sigurdurdottir) Erickson, still reside in Minneota. They were pioneer settlers of Lincoln county and in later years moved to Minneota, where they have long been residents.

Sigurdur was reared in the parental home and given a good education in the common schools. When the opportunity was offered of taking the position as bookkeeper in the local bank he accepted and has been with the institution since. He is now assistant cashier and a director. Mr. Erickson is a member of the Icelandic Lutheran church. He is associated with the I. O. O. F. and Modern Woodmen lodges, filling the office of treasurer of the former and clerk of the M. W. A.

August 24, 1911, Sigurdur Erickson was married to Ella E. Ross. Miss Ross was born and brought up in the state of Kansas. The wedding occurred in Jacksonville, Illinois.

DR. J. F. SMITH (1908) is one of the leading veterinary surgeons of Marshall and has an office near the "Hitch Barn." The doctor was born in LaPorte, Indiana, December 1, 1855, and when a child moved with his parents to Benton Harbor, Michigan, where he resided until seventeen years of age. Then he took up his residence in La Crosse, Wisconsin, and resided there two and a half years. He moved to Otter Tail county, Minnesota, in 1876, and while engaged in farming went through two trying years in the grasshopper days. He remained on the farm until 1899 and on account of ill health quit that occupation with the view of taking up veterinary work. He attended the Kansas City Veterinary College, from which he was graduated, and returned to Otter Tail county and practised there four years. He then moved to Benson, Swift county, and practised five years, or until 1908, when he moved to Marshall. The doctor is qual-

ified in every way for the profession he has chosen and is enjoying a splendid and growing practice in Marshall and the surrounding territory.

The doctor is not married. He is the son of Samuel and Almyra E. (Cotten) Smith, who were natives of Cuyahoga county, Ohio. They were married near Chicago and settled in Indiana in the late fifties. Both are dead. They are the parents of six children: Alva, of Otter Tail county; J. F., of this sketch; Eli E., of North Dakota; William H. H., of North Dakota; Mary E. (Mrs. A. T. Finley), of North Dakota; and George T., of Otter Tail county, Minnesota.

Dr. Smith is a member of the Minnesota State Veterinary Medical Association and of the K. P. lodge.

ANTON E. ANDERSON (1881) is manager of the Northwestern Elevator Company at Florence. He is a native of Lyon county and was born in the township in which he has spent his entire life January 27, 1881. He spent his boyhood days with his parents on the farm and attended the district schools, later attending the Sioux Falls Business College. After finishing school he worked one year in the State Bank of Tyler. In the fall of 1907 Mr. Anderson returned to Florence and has since been engaged in buying grain for the above named firm. This elevator was built in 1887 by the firm which now owns it and was the first elevator in Florence.

Mr. Anderson is a son of Edward and Mattie (Olson) Anderson, natives of Norway who came to Fillmore county, Minnesota, in the sixties, and to Lyon county in the early seventies. Their first home was in Shelburne township, where they still reside. They are the parents of seven children, as follows: Carrie (Mrs. C. M. Miller), of Raymond, Minnesota; Mollie (Mrs. W. P. Innes, of Tracy; Anton E., of this sketch; Louis, Edwin, Martin and John, who reside at home. One child, Tillie, died when six or seven years of age. The subject of this sketch holds membership in the Masonic and M. W. A. lodges.

Mr. Anderson was married July 21, 1909, at Florence, to Pauline Ofstad. She also was born in Shelburne township and is a

daughter of Andrew Ofstad, one of the earliest settlers of that precinct. Mr. and Mrs. Anderson have one child, Edmund A.

MAURICE GROTTA (1902), who is a prosperous farmer of Clifton township, was born in Ramsdal, Norway, December 16, 1865, and is a son of Ellif and Male (Alness) Grotta. The father was a farmer and cooper. When Maurice was four years of age the family came to this country and settled in Brown county, Minnesota, where the father took a homestead and where our subject grew to manhood.

Maurice obtained his education in a country school and worked on the home farm. At the age of eighteen years he bought forty acres and started in for himself, later adding to his holdings until he was the owner of a half section in Brown county. He later sold and for several years was in the land business, in 1892 returning to Norway.

It was in 1902 that the subject of this sketch came to Lyon county and bought the southwest quarter of section 35, Clifton township. He moved on the place in 1909. For several years he was interested also in land around Milroy. He raises cattle for market, in addition to his general farming, and owns stock in the Farmers Elevator Company of Milroy and in the Nelson & Albion Mercantile Company of Nelson, Minnesota.

On December 1, 1906, occurred the ceremony which joined in the holy bonds of matrimony Maurice Grotta and Julia Ellifson. She was born in Norway and is a daughter of Bord and Jensine Ellifson, who still live in the land of the midnight sun. To our subject and his wife have been born three children, Emma, Ernest M. and Jennie B. Mr. and Mrs. Grotta are members of the Norwegian Lutheran church.

KNUTE NYLIN (1886) is a merchant tailor of Tracy. He was born in Sweden May 23, 1866, a son of Otto and Mary Nylin. The father died in 1877 and the mother in 1910. They were the parents of six children: Knute, of this sketch; Jennie, of St. Paul; Andrew, Clara, Amelia and Lottie, of Sweden.

Knute learned the tailor's trade in the old country under his father's instruction. In 1886 he came to Lyon county and located at Tracy, where he worked in a shop several months. He then spent several months working at his trade at Canby, Minnesota, and Miller, South Dakota. Returning to Tracy, he has made that his home ever since. On his return, he and Gust Abrahamson opened a tailor shop and engaged in business under the firm name of Abrahamson & Company. They continued in partnership eight years, when Mr. Nylin purchased his partner's interest, and he has since conducted the business alone. He is the oldest tailor in Tracy.

Mr. Nylin has a fine business, employing four or five men. He does all kinds of merchant tailor work, repairing, cleaning. Mr. Nylin is a member of the K. P. and M. B. A. lodges. He owns a fine residence in Tracy, which he had built in 1910.

In 1889 Mr. Nylin was married at Tracy to Nellie Larson, a native of Norway. They are the parents of two children, Esther and Victor.

J. W. MATHIS (1909) is proprietor of one of Marshall's up-to-date jewelry stores, and while he has been a resident of the city for only three years, his business has grown to very satisfactory proportions. This is because of the high quality of the goods he carries and because he thoroughly understands the business in which he has devoted a number of years.

On moving to Marshall in October, 1909, Mr. Mathis opened a jewelry store in the building now occupied by the Marshall State Bank, occupying those quarters until December, 1910, when he moved to his present quarters. The optical department of the store is in charge of a specialist in that line, and he also carries a neat stock of musical instruments.

Mr. Mathis was born in Saes, Graubeuten, Switzerland, May 24, 1863. When three years of age he came to the United States with his parents, who settled in Chaska, Minnesota, where he resided until fourteen years of age. After a residence in Durand, Wisconsin, of three years, he moved to Belleplaine, Minnesota, where he learned the jeweler's trade. His next move

was to Morgan, this state, where he engaged in the jewelry business for eight years, or until moving to Marshall.

Mr. Mathis was married in Belleplaine, Minnesota, May 23, 1889, to Louisa H. Bierlein, who was born near Chaska, Minnesota. To this union three children have been born, as follows: May, a student at the Winona Normal School; Elmer, a high school student; and Mabel.

Mr. Mathis is a member of the Modern Woodmen lodge and the family affiliate with the Presbyterian church.

JUSTUS ENGLAND (1900), farmer of Rock Lake township, is proving that the farmer on a comparatively small scale can prosper, for he has been very successful on his eighty acres, the west half of the northwest quarter of section 16. He is a stockholder in the Current Lake Telephone Company and has been a stockholder and director of the Farmers Cooperative Company of Balaton since its organization, serving as vice president three years. Mr. England is the Rock Lake representative of the Southern Minnesota Better Development League.

Justus England was born in Sachsenhausen, Germany, August 30, 1869, a son of John William and Kunna Yunda (Waldman) England, the former of whom is deceased. The mother is living in Germany. In the Fatherland Justus received his education, which was finished when he was fourteen years of age. His father was a blacksmith and the boy worked in the shop one year after his school work was finished. In 1884 he came to America, locating at Cedar Falls, Iowa, and working for an uncle a few months, and then going to Grundy county, where he worked at farm labor two years. After working four years in Franklin county as a hired hand, young England rented land and farmed for himself five years, later buying property in the county and farming it two years.

Mr. England traded his Iowa holdings in 1897 for land in Murray county, Minnesota, and then for two years farmed rented land in Iowa. In the spring of 1899 he traded the Murray county land for the eighty acres which he now farms in Rock Lake and made his home on the

place. He has served the last seven years as a member of the Rock Lake town board, for three years as chairman, and was road overseer one year. Mr. England for the past nine years has been a deacon of the German Lutheran church of Balaton.

Our subject married Margaret Meyer March 13, 1896, in Morgan township, Franklin county, Iowa. She was born September 26, 1876, and is a daughter of Henry R. and Mutge (Stohr) Meyer, both of whom are living at Latimer, Iowa. Mr. and Mrs. England are parents of one child, Henry William, born November 22, 1905.

BYRON G. HENRICHS (1892) is the proprietor of a blacksmith shop at Russell. He was born in Bremer county, Iowa, May 27, 1884. His mother died when Byron was an infant, and he was adopted by his uncle and aunt, Fred and Rachael Henrichs, who now reside in Todd county, Minnesota.

When four years of age our subject accompanied his foster parents to Hand county, South Dakota. Four years later the family came to Lyon county and purchased land in Shelburne township. There Byron resided until fifteen years of age, when he went to Tyler, entered a blacksmith shop and learned the trade. He then went to Minneapolis, Minnesota, and Lewistown, Montana, working at his trade at both places. In 1908 he purchased the Swan Swanson blacksmith shop at Russell and has conducted it since.

Mr. Henrichs was married at Marshall on December 22, 1909, to Mary Zvorak, a native of Lyon county. They have one child, Blanch Marie. Mr. Henrichs is a member of the Masonic lodge of Russell.

CHRIST TEHART (1901), who has been a Custer township farmer since March 1, 1911, claims Holland as his native land. He was born in that country January 3, 1863, received his education and was brought up on his father's farm there, and later worked out at farm labor until 1901.

In the spring of 1901 our subject came to America and located in Lyon county, in Amiret township, where he rented land and farmed three years. He then moved

to Custer township and farmed rented land two years. Murray county was his next home, and there he remained five years, returning, in March, 1911, to Lyon county and renting the farm he now operates, the southeast quarter of section 14, Custer township. Mr. Tehart raises cattle and hogs, making a specialty of the Shorthorn and Duroc-Jersey breeds.

Mr. Tehart was married May 15, 1895, to Jennie Heidekamp, who was born in The Netherlands July 6, 1866. Her parents died when she was a child. Mrs. Tehart died June 25, 1911. The following children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Tehart: Tena, born February 9, 1896; Grace, born April 30, 1897; Frank, born November 9, 1898; Thomas, born February 27, 1902; Henry, born October 20, 1903; and Annie, born May 2, 1905. All are at home with their father.

Our subject's parents, Frank and Tena (Rosenbaum) Tehart, came to America in 1902, and the father is still a resident of Lyon county. The mother died in 1911.

ARLOW S. KINCH (1910) is the junior member of the firm styled the Lawler-Hunting Clothing Company, of Marshall. The company was founded in the fall of 1910 by F. F. Hunting and T. A. Lawler, two successful young business men of Fairmont, and Mr. Kinch. The firm handles clothing, furnishings and shoes.

A. S. Kinch was born on a farm in Fillmore county, Minnesota, November 8, 1878, the son of James K. and Elsie J. (Howe) Kinch. The parents make their home in Marshall with their only child. The father is a native of Pennsylvania, the mother of Fillmore county, Minnesota.

At the age of ten years Arlow moved to Spring Valley, Minnesota, where he was educated and where he lived until nineteen years of age. He clerked in a dry goods store at Austin two years, in the dry goods department of a large department store at Winnebago City one and one-half years, and for six years in department stores at Jackson. He then engaged in the mercantile business at Fairmont in partnership with K. F. Woodard, and was so engaged three years. In 1910 he located in Marshall and engaged in business as stated.

Mr. Kinch was married in Jackson August 10, 1905, to Clara Olson. They have one child, Maxine O., born June 29, 1911. Mr. Kinch is a member of the Knights of Pythias lodge of Fairmont.

PEDER J. ALMJELD (1893), a successful farmer of Shelburne township, was born in Norway September 29, 1874, his parents being John P. and Marih P. (Ottem) Alm-jeld. Both parents died in the old country. The children all journeyed to America, except Marie, who still lives in Norway. Peder has two sisters, Rende and Paulina (Mrs. Hens Ely), and two brothers, Peter M. and Ole, living in Center-ville, South Dakota. Two sisters, Marih (Mrs. Andrew Berg) and Ingrid, and one brother, Lars J., are residents of Lyon county.

The subject of our sketch came to this country from Norway in 1893, taking up farm work in Lyon county, Minnesota, immediately upon his arrival. He farmed for different people for nine years, then rented and farmed for himself. In 1911 he bought the northeast quarter of section 9, Shelburne township. At the present time Mr. Alm-jeld farms that quarter and rents and lives upon the northeast quarter of section 20.

The wife of our subject was Clara R. Berg, of Shelburne township. She is a daughter of E. Berg; the family came here from Fillmore county. Peder J. Alm-jeld and Clara R. Berg were married in Lyon county February 23, 1901. Three children have been born to this union: Clifford, Floyd J. and Earl L. Mr. Alm-jeld is a member of the M. W. A. lodge.

GEORGE A. SCHAIN (1911) is one of the young attorneys of Lyon county and resides in the city of Tracy. He was born in Browns Valley, Minnesota, September 17, 1887. His parents are Jacob and Irene (Burdick) Schain, the former a native of Norway and the latter of New York. They located in Willmar in 1860. In 1880 they moved to Browns Valley, where the father is engaged in the mercantile business. The mother died in September, 1911. There are three children in the family, Charles R., Josephine and George A.

George grew to manhood and attended school at Browns Valley, having been graduated from the high school of that city. He then attended the University of Minnesota and was graduated from the law department in 1911. While attending school he clerked and read law in an office. On June 26, 1911, he moved to Tracy and opened an office over the Boston Cash Store.

ALBERT WREATH (1902), who rents the O. R. Owens farm, the northwest quarter of section 26, Custer township, was born in Kansas September 25, 1879, and is a son of William and Clara (Cargill) Wreath, who reside in Monroe township, Lyon county. The parents have been residents of the county since 1904. William Wreath is a veteran of the Civil War.

Albert's family moved to Iowa when he was three years of age, and there he grew to manhood, receiving his education and assisting his father. During his Iowa residence he also worked out at farm labor six years. In February, 1902, when Albert was twenty-three years of age, he came to Lyon county and found employment as a farm hand near Dudley the next two years, later hiring out one year at the same work in Custer township. The past six years Mr. Wreath has been engaged in farming for himself in Custer township and has been doing well.

He was married September 16, 1903, to Alice Moore, a native of Ida Grove, Iowa, the wedding taking place in Lyon county. Mrs. Wreath is a daughter of F. P. and Katie A. (Machemer) Moore. Her mother is deceased and her father is a resident of Monroe township. Her father located in Lyon county in 1902. Mr. and Mrs. Wreath are the parents of the following children: Edith, born June 5, 1904; Amy, born April 27, 1906; Ruth, born March 29, 1908; and Edna, born April 17, 1910. Mr. Wreath is affiliated with the Modern Woodmen lodge of Garvin.

F. J. LONGTIN (1901) is the genial proprietor of a Marshall saloon. He was born in Cloud county, Kansas, on December 17, 1874, where he grew to manhood. He took up his residence in Aurora, Kansas, and for five years was in charge of the hardware department in a large department store.

While there he was deputy postmaster during Cleveland's last administration, his father being postmaster.

In 1901 Mr. Longtin located at Marshall and for two years tended bar in the Atlantic Buffet. Then he moved to Tracy, where, in company with his father, F. Longtin, he conducted a saloon two years. He then returned to Marshall, and on May 19, 1905, he bought the saloon of J. D. Lanoue, which is situated on Main Street, two doors from the Atlantic Hotel. There he has since been in business.

Mr. Longtin was married in Jamestown, Kansas, on April 19, 1898, to Nelda Marcott, who was born in Illinois. To them have been born the following named children: Loretta, Adolph, Freddie, Josephine, Flavius and Amedie.

Mr. Longtin is the son of Flavius and Julia Longtin, the former a native of Canada and the latter of Illinois. They located in Tracy in 1903, where they now reside.

N. J. ROBINSON (1872), attorney-at-law of Tracy and ex-county attorney, is a native of the county and a son of two of the very early settlers. He is a successful practitioner and is interested in many business enterprises of his city.

Our subject was born on his father's homestead on the southeast quarter of section 1, Custer township, March 8, 1872, and on that farm he made his home until moving to Tracy in 1900. He was graduated from the Tracy High School in 1897 and from the Law Department of the University of Minnesota in 1900 with the degree of L. L. B. He at once engaged in the practice of his profession at Tracy and has been so engaged ever since.

In local politics Mr. Robinson has taken an active part. He served two terms as mayor of his city, has been city attorney for the past six years, and for the same length of time has served as a member of the Water and Light Board. He was elected county attorney on the Republican ticket in 1906, was re-elected in 1908, and served four years. In business matters Mr. Robinson has also been active. In 1910 he organized the Tracy Garage Company and has since been president of the company. It is one of the big institutions of Tracy, the building

which houses it being one of the largest in the county. He is also one of the organizers of the Tracy Building and Loan Association, which was founded in 1910, and is its attorney and a director. Mr. Robinson is a member of the Knights of Pythias and Macabee lodges. For six years prior to 1910 he was chancellor commander of the local lodge of the Knights of Pythias.

Our subject was married in Tracy February 26, 1911, to Leah M. Mongeau. She was born in Manteno, Illinois, and came to Lyon county when a child with her parents, Adler and Agnes (Smith) Mongeau.

N. J. Robinson descends from one of the old New England families whose coming to America dates back to the earliest known settlements in the Colonies. On his father's side he is Scottish-German origin; his mother was of New York parentage and of Scottish descent.

His father, George S. Robinson, was born April 7, 1836, at Springwater, Livingston county, New York, being the son of Joseph and Cathreen (Spangler) Robinson, the former a Methodist minister. His mother, Nellie (Gould) Robinson, was born December 15, 1846, in North Adams, Massachusetts. The parents came to Lyon county in 1868 and took as a homestead claim the southeast quarter of section 1, Custer township. On it the father built a log cabin, in which was held the first meeting of the Board of County Commissioners of Lyon county.

George Robinson was identified with the early history of the county and held many offices of trust in his township. He died August 24, 1906. Mrs. Robinson still lives and makes her home in Tracy. There are seven children in the family. Evan D., the eldest, resides in Montana. The others reside in Lyon county and are as follows: George M., Ella (Mrs. J. E. Morgan), Fred R., Frank D., Earl H. and N. J.

OLE OPHIEM (1905) is manager of the Tracy Cement Drain Tile, Brick and Block Company, one of the big and prosperous business concerns of Tracy. Mr. Ophiem was one of the gentlemen who organized the company in 1907 and he has since been the manager of the concern. It was re-organized and incorporated in 1911 with a capital stock of \$50,000.



OLE OPHIEM

Manager of the Tracy Cement Drain Tile,  
Brick and Block Company.



J. S. BARTLETT

Proprietor of the Exchange Hotel, Tracy.



REV. L. E. SJOLINDER AND FAMILY

Rev. Sjolinder is Pastor of the Swedish Lutheran Church of Tracy.



N. J. ROBINSON

An Attorney of Tracy and a Native of  
Lyon County.



Over 15,500 blocks were sold during the year 1911. Among the cement block buildings the company has erected are two for Mr. Ophiem, the Donaldson coal office, the jail at Lucan, Minnesota; the Berge store at Porter, Minnesota; the farmers' co-operative creamery at Porter; an ice house at Hendricks, Minnesota, and the electric light plant at that place; the large garage building at Tracy. Blocks were also furnished for the farmers' co-operative creamery at Tracy, the Richard Department Store at Tracy, and for a creamery at Ivanhoe.

Ole Ophiem was born in Norway July 14, 1876. In 1887 he came to America with his parents and located in Minnehaha county, South Dakota, where he lived until seventeen years of age. He then moved to Canby with his parents, and when he was twenty-three years old he engaged in the cement business, which he has ever since followed. He located in Tracy in 1905 and two years later organized the company as stated. Mr. Ophiem is a member of the M. W. A. and A. O. U. W. lodges.

Our subject was married in Tracy October 15, 1905, to Lena Thompson and to them have been born four children, as follows: Stella B., Alice J., Bernice V. and John A.

The parents of our subject are John and Bertha (Kall) Ophiem. They came from Norway in 1887 and after having lived a few years in Minnehaha county, South Dakota, they located in Yellow Medicine county, Minnesota, where they still reside. They have the following named eight children: Ole, Olaf, Nellie, Lena, Bertha, Josie, Tom and Ella.

JAMES S. BARTLETT (1903) was born in Troy, New York, January 16, 1848. There he was educated and at the age of twenty went to Rock county, Wisconsin, where he farmed for the next twenty years. The Far West brought its appeal to Mr. Bartlett, and he spent one year in Southern California, thence going to Fairbury, Nebraska, where he lived during the next ten years. While at Fairbury he started in the hotel business, which occupation has claimed his attention since that time. Mr. Bartlett conducted a hotel in Madison, South Dakota, for two years, and during

the next eight years conducted at different times hotels at Salem, South Dakota; Northfield, Minnesota; Sioux City, Iowa; and Minneota, Minnesota. From Minneota Mr. Bartlett moved to Tracy and has since conducted the Exchange Hotel, in partnership with his son Clarence E., who is also a real estate dealer.

Mr. Bartlett's parents were Elisha W. and Margaret (Corcoran) Bartlett, the former a native of Massachusetts and the latter of Cork, Ireland. Margaret Corcoran came to this country when a child and her parents settled in Troy, New York. To Elisha and Margaret Corcoran were born four children, namely: Henry, Louisa, Mary and James S. Our subject is the only child living. Margaret (Corcoran) Bartlett died sixty-two years ago. Elisha Bartlett later married Palmyra Lewis, a native of Petersburg, New York. To this union six children were born. Emma, Julia, Anna and Fanny are living, and a daughter, Lucy, and a son, Lewis, died a number of years ago.

On March 10, 1872, James S. Bartlett was united in marriage to Emma J. Bullock, the ceremony taking place in Rock county, Wisconsin. The wife died in Salem, South Dakota, February 14, 1903. Three children were born to the couple, as follows: Henry, who died in Orange, California, at the age of fifteen years and was buried at Santa Anna, California; Clarence E., a real estate dealer and associated with his father in conducting the Exchange Hotel; and Cora (Mrs. Sam Carroll), of Dell Rapids, South Dakota. Mrs. Carroll has one son, Glenn, aged thirteen years.

Clarence Bartlett, son of the subject of this biographical sketch, was married to Ethel Shephard, a native of Lake county, South Dakota, the marriage taking place at Madison, South Dakota. They are the parents of two children, both girls. May is aged ten years and Margaret is seven.

REV. LAURENTERIK SJOLINDER (1906) is pastor of the Swedish Lutheran church of Tracy, having been called to the charge six years ago. Rev. Sjolinder also supplies the pulpit at Walnut Grove, in Redwood county, and makes visits to a church at Ivanhoe, in Lincoln county.

Sweden is the native home of Rev. Sjolinder. He was born in the province of Vester-Norrland on April 22, 1859, a son of Olaf P. and Anna Marie (Brown) Sjolinder. The family immigrated to America in 1882, resided for a short time in Union county, South Dakota, and later in Charles Mix county, of the same state, where the father died in December, 1883. Laurent attended the common schools and finished a three years' academic course in his native land prior to the coming of the family to America. In this country he continued his studies at the Augustana College and Theological Seminary in Rock Island, Illinois, graduating from the college in 1886 and from the seminary in 1888. He was ordained June 24, 1888, and took his first pastorate in Union and Lincoln counties, South Dakota, preaching in that field until 1896. For three years thereafter he served as a missionary for his denomination in Minneapolis and St. Paul. North Dakota was the scene of the young minister's next pulpit work, and he served a continuous pastorate of seven years with the church at Grand Forks, moving from there to Tracy in 1906. The pastor's widowed mother died in Tracy May 20, 1907, and is buried in the Swedish Lutheran cemetery.

On May 12, 1897, occurred the marriage of Rev. Laurent Erik Sjolinder and Marie B. Yttreness. The bride is a native of Albert Lea, Minnesota, and is the daughter of John B. and Bertha Yttreness, who now reside at Beresford, South Dakota. Rev. and Mrs. Sjolinder are the parents of the following children: Lawrence, born March 21, 1898; Anthony, born March 15, 1901; and Julius, born September 24, 1907.

JOHN THOLEN (1884) is a large land owner of Westerheim township and lives on the southeast quarter of section 28. He owns 1230 acres of good farming land and is one of the well-to-do men of the township.

Our subject was born in Holland December 24, 1856, and is a son of John Christian and Mary Elizabeth (Bergdens) Tholen, now deceased. John received his early education in Holland, where he attended the common schools until nineteen years

of age. He then worked at home for his father until 1880. In the fall of that year the young man came to America and located in Henry county, Illinois, where he engaged in farming three years. In the summer of 1884 he came to Lyon county and settled on the place where he has since resided.

The marriage of John Tholen and Gertrude Dircks occurred February 6, 1883, in Carver county, Minnesota. She was born in Holland. By her marriage to Mr. Tholen she became the mother of three children, as follows: Leo C., Hubert A. and Mary E. Mrs. Tholen died March 19, 1887.

Our subject was married a second time, to Matilda Wambecke. The marriage occurred at Ghent February 18, 1889. She is a native of Belgium, born October 7, 1864, and is the daughter of Ferdinand and Rosalie (Fau) Wambecke. They settled in Lyon county in 1888 and both are deceased. By this second marriage nine children were born: Joseph H., William V., Leonora M., Elizabeth B., John C., Henry A., Albert J., Lambert J. and Frank W. All the children live at home.

Mr. Tholen has been director of school district No. 44 for five years. He is a stockholder of the Farmers Elevator Company of Ghent. His church affiliation is with the Catholic church.

HERMAN SCHURZ (1886) is the proprietor of the City Hotel, a restaurant and a feed barn in Marshall. He is a native of Germany and was born May 29, 1862, a son of Edward and Christine Schurz, both of whom are deceased. They were the parents of two children: Marie, of Germany, and Herman, of this sketch. In 1880 our subject came to the United States to seek his fortune and lived three and one-half years in New York. Later he located in Chickasaw county, Iowa, where he farmed three years.

In 1886 Mr. Schurz came to Lyon county and spent two years working on farms in the county, after which he returned to Iowa and was married. He returned to Marshall and on May 11, 1888, opened a hotel and restaurant in the building now occupied by the City Meat Market. He conducted his

business in the latter building three years, when he purchased the two-story brick building which he now occupies. Mr. Schurz conducted the business seven years longer and then rented out his hotel business and purchased a farm in Lake Marshall township, which he conducted three years. He sold his farm and again took up the hotel business, bought the lot adjoining his building, put up a two-story addition, and has since conducted the hotel and restaurant. In 1911 Mr. Schurz purchased the Hayes-Lucas lumber sheds and converted the property into a hitch and feed barn.

Mr. Schurz owns considerable property in addition to his business interests in Marshall. He owns farms in Amiret township and in Red Lake county, eighty acres one-half mile from Russell, and two and one-half acres in the city of Marshall, besides several lots. He is a member of the Modern Woodmen lodge and served on the City Council four years.

At Iona, Iowa, April 1, 1888, occurred the marriage of Mr. Schurz to Carrie Schenfeldt, a native of Wisconsin. They are the parents of two children: Charles and Helen.

AUGUST SCHROEDER (1895), of Sodus township, was born in Benton county, Iowa, June 1, 1870, a son of Gustav and Catherine Schroeder, deceased. He was brought up on a farm and secured his schooling in his native county.

Mr. Schroeder came to Lyon county in 1895 and for a number of years worked out on farms and with threshing crews. He moved to Lac qui Parle county in 1904, farmed there two years, and then returned and took up his residence in Marshall. Several years later he again engaged in farming, one year on section 18, Sodus township, and since then at his present location. He owns the northwest quarter and the west half of the northeast quarter of section 21, has a fine farm, and has just completed a new home.

On the fourth day of May, 1904, at Marshall, Mr. Schroeder was united in marriage to Inga Ueland, who was born in Norway September 22, 1878. Her father, Rasmus Ueland, lives in Cottonwood; her mother,

Malina Ueland, died in 1909. Mr. and Mrs. Schroeder have four children: Geo, Roy, Laurence and Albert William.

JESSE E. FINNELL (1905) is the proprietor of the City Feed Mill of Marshall. He was born in Shelby county, Iowa, May 16, 1887, the youngest son born to T. J. and Malinda (Wolf) Finnell, natives, respectively, of Coshocton and Mount Vernon, Ohio. The family moved to Defiance, Iowa, in an early day and engaged in farming there until moving to Lyon county in 1905. The other children of the family are as follows: Mary (Mrs. J. C. Marshall), Wheeler and Jane, all living in Lyon county.

Jesse resided with his parents in Shelby county, Iowa, until he came to Lyon county with them in 1905. For several years he and his father farmed a place southwest of Ghent. In the fall of 1910 Mr. Finnell located in Marshall and established the City Feed Mill in the Goodwin Building on Main Street. He put in new machinery, engine, feed mill, shellers, etc., and manufactures all kinds of feed and does custom work. The business has increased greatly since he engaged in the business.

Jesse Finnell is unmarried and makes his home with his parents, his father assisting him with the management of the business. Our subject is a member of the A. F. & A. M. and A. O. U. W. lodges.

JOHN A. BURCKHARDT (1887) is a son of the late John Burckhardt, Sr., and a land owner of Coon Creek township. He is a native of Stephenson county, Illinois, and was born April 2, 1877. When seven years of age he accompanied his parents to Lyon county, the family locating in Coon Creek township, where his father bought land and where our subject received his schooling and grew to manhood.

In 1907 the subject of this sketch took charge of the farm which he now owns and operates. Besides farming, he raises a great number of cattle and hogs. He is a member of the M. W. A., A. O. U. W. and R. N. A. lodges.

Mr. Burckhardt was married at Tyler, Minnesota, on January 16, 1907, to Anna M. Larson, a native of Nebraska and a daughter of

Casper and Julia (Quaine) Larson, of Tyler, the former a native of Denmark and the latter of Iowa. Mr. and Mrs. Burckhardt have two children: Alice V. and Bernice V.

EUGENE SIMMONS (1903) has been the superintendent of the Marshall Power & Light Company's plant for the past nine years. He was born in Howard county, Iowa, January 20, 1869, and during the first thirteen years of his life resided with his parents in several different places. At the age of thirteen he located in Minneapolis, lived in Fargo, North Dakota, for a time, and then settled permanently in Wadena, Minnesota.

In the city of Wadena Mr. Simmons secured a high school education and then took up railroad work. For a year he was employed in the shops of the Northern Pacific Railroad Company at that point, and for the next five and one-half years he was a fireman on the Northern Pacific. Thereafter for a time he operated stationary engines and for six years had charge of the Wadena lighting and waterworks plant. In 1903 he gave up that position and located in Marshall to assume his duties as superintendent of the city plant.

Mr. Simmons is an electrician of more than local fame. He is first vice president of the Minnesota Electrical Association and is an associate member of the American Institute of Electrical Engineers. He is a member of several Masonic orders and of the A. O. U. W. lodge. In the local Royal Arch Chapter he is high priest.

At Wadena, Minnesota, on December 23, 1896, Mr. Simmons was married to Hattie M. Brate, who was born in Hancock county, Iowa, and who moved with her parents to Wadena when a child. Mr. and Mrs. Simmons have four children: Arthur B., Eugene C., Margaret L. and Peter.

The parents of our subject are Samuel W. and Sarah C. (Ellis) Simmons, who are now residents of Portland, Oregon. The father was born in Kingston, Canada, the mother in Lewis county, New York. There are four children in the family, as follows: Sarah E., of Portland; Nora L. Knight, of Otter Tail county, Minnesota; Eugene, of Marshall; and Guy R., of Portland.

ALFRED KELSON (1903) is a young farmer of Rock Lake township who in company with his brother James rented the north half of section 13 four years ago and has since been farming the place. The boys are wide-awake lads and hustlers, and they have been successful in their venture. They are realizing, as are so many of the farmers in this section, the wisdom of entering into the stock raising business in addition to general farming, and are raising cattle for market every year.

Alfred was born in Kankakee county, Illinois, October 21, 1890, and is a son of Andrew and Mary (Sorenson) Kelson, early settlers of Illinois. The family came to Lyon county in March, 1903, and the father purchased land in Custer township, where the parents now reside. Our subject received his early education in Illinois and later attended the country school of Custer township and the village school at Balaton. When eighteen years of age he and his brother started in their farming venture.

Our subject is a member of the Degree of Honor lodge of Balaton, of which he is inside watchman.

CARL F. BERG (1906) is the manager of Bingham Brothers' grain elevator at Minneota. He is a native of Yellow Medicine county, was born on his father's farm February 2, 1887, and there grew to manhood. His father, P. M. Berg, was an early settler of Yellow Medicine county and is now a merchant of Minneota. Carl located in Minneota in 1906, worked a few years in his father's store, and then ran a dray line one year. He then returned to his parents' old farm and conducted that one year. In March, 1911, he entered the employ of Bingham Brothers and has since bought grain and managed the elevator for that firm.

Carl F. Berg was married at Canby, Minnesota, August 7, 1908, to Sarah Josephson, a resident of Minneota and a daughter of Asbjorn Josephson. Two children have blessed their union—Henry and a baby girl.

Mr. Berg is a member of the M. W. A. lodge and of the Minneota Fire Department.

ANTON K. LIEN (1902), a prominent farmer of Lucas township, was born in Dane

county, Wisconsin, November 13, 1879. His parents, Knut and Lena Lien, came from Norway in an early day and made settlement in Wisconsin, where they engaged in farming.

Anton secured his education in Wisconsin and resided there until 1900. That year he accompanied the family to Cottonwood county, Minnesota, lived with them there two years, and then the family came to Lyon county. Knut Lien bought the west half of section 26 and forty acres on section 35, Lucas township, and established a home there. Anton Lien has ever since lived on that farm. In 1907 he rented the land from his father and has since conducted it to his own account. His parents moved to Cottonwood, where the father died soon after and where the mother still has her home. Anton Lien is a director of school district No. 17.

The marriage of Anton Lien and Ronog Mattestad occurred in Cottonwood March 21, 1908. Mrs. Lien was born in Guldbrundalen, Norway, September 3, 1886, a daughter of Hans and Rande (Olson) Mattestad. Mr. and Mrs. Lien have two children: Lila V., born December 30, 1908; and Arden K., born May 9, 1910.

ARCHIE S. MONGEAU (1887) is the manager and grain buyer for the Northwestern Elevator Company at Marshall. He was born in Kankakee county, Illinois, January 11, 1885. His parents are Atler and Agnes (Smith) Mongeau, the former a native of Canada and the latter of Illinois. They came to Lyon county in 1887 and located in Fairview township. The mother died in 1897. They were the parents of eight children, as follows: Josephine (Mrs. M. D. Devereant), of Illinois; Leah (Mrs. N. J. Robinson), of Tracy; Archie S., of this sketch; Edmond, a fireman on the Northwestern railroad at Huron, South Dakota; Napoleon, a student of the Tracy High School; Oscar, a student at Kankakee, Illinois; Emma and Ziphre.

When two years of age our subject accompanied his parents to Lyon county and located in Fairview township. There he grew to manhood and obtained his education in the district schools and in the Marshall High School. He then worked on his father's farm until March 15, 1910. On the latter date he entered the employ of the North-

western Elevator Company at Marshall as manager and grain buyer. He has held this position since that date.

The elevator was built by the Northwestern Elevator Company about fifteen years ago. The company buys and ships grain and handles coal and seed. The home office is at Minneapolis and C. A. Magnuson is president. The company owns 105 elevators on the Great Northern Railroad, with a storage capacity of 5,500,000 bushels.

ALBERT WILD (1902), of Lake Marshall township, was born in Germany November 4, 1859. His parents are Defler and Mary (Hacker) Wild. Albert worked at home until twenty-four years of age, when he came to America.

Upon his arrival to America, Mr. Wild first, located in Illinois, where he worked as a farm hand three years. He then moved to Nobles county, Minnesota, where he bought eighty acres of land and farmed ten years, when he sold out and moved to Lincoln county, Minnesota. He resided in the latter county until 1902 and then came to Lyon county and purchased the southeast quarter of section 18, Lake Marshall township, where he now lives. Mr. Wild is a member of the German Evangelical church.

In Nobles county, May 30, 1889, occurred the marriage of Mr. Wild to Anna Suhler, a native of Germany. She is a daughter of John and Margrette (Hahn) Suhler and was born June 9, 1863. To Mr. and Mrs. Wild have been born the following children: Edward J., born November 6, 1891; John A., born March 7, 1893; Alfred N., born November 25, 1898; Esra, born January 12, 1902.

OSCAR VANDEN BERGHE (1906), proprietor of the Corner Saloon in Ghent, is a native of Belgium and was born August 12, 1884. His father, Joseph Vanden Berghe, is deceased, and his mother, Sophia (Vergote) Vanden Berghe, resides with her son in Ghent.

Oscar was brought up and given his education in Belgium. At the age of fourteen years he gave up school and became an employe of a can-making factory in Eeghem, Belgium, where he worked four years. Coming to America in 1904, our subject located

at Duluth, Minnesota, and there worked on the ore docks for three years.

Our subject came to Lyon county in 1906, located in Ghent, and engaged in farm labor in the vicinity for two years. Mishawaka, Indiana, was his home for the next three years, Oscar being employed in a shoe factory during that time, but he had become attached to Lyon county and returned to Ghent in August, 1911. He purchased the Corner Saloon from Ernest De Keyser and has since conducted the place, handling wines, liquors and cigars. Oscar Vanden Berghé is a member of the Catholic church.

JOHN DeVOS (1883) owns and farms 450 acres of land on sections 29 and 32, Vallery township, and has a well-improved place. He has lived in Lyon county since he was fifteen years of age and has been farming on his own account nineteen years.

Belgium is the native land of John DeVos and September 21, 1868, was the date of his birth. His mother, Matilda (Lambrecht) DeVos, died in 1876, and in 1883 he came with his father, Charles DeVos, to America. The first home was in Minneota and later John and his father lived at Ghent. For several years our subject worked out at farm labor, but in 1893 he rented his father's farm and started in business for himself. In 1899 he bought his Vallery farm and the next year moved to his new home. Mr. DeVos is a member of the Catholic church and was a director of school district No. 48 for two years.

Mr. DeVos was married in Ghent to Clemense Van Daele, who is also a native of Belgium. She is a daughter of Serel and Melae (Cuman) Van Daele. Our subject and his wife have eight children, Mary, Camiel, Serel, Sadie, Lizzie, Elsie, Julia and Bertha.

FRANK L. WOODRUFF (1906) was born in Faribault county, Prescott township, Minnesota, January 10, 1879, and made that place his home until moving to Marshall. His parents, Wallace A. and Sarah Jane (Snyder) Woodruff, natives of Vermont and Illinois, located in Faribault county in 1863, in company with Wallace A. Woodruff's father, Joseph C. Woodruff. Joseph C. took a homestead and bought forty acres and

resided in the county until 1890, when he moved to Marshall, and he resided there up to the time of his death in 1893.

Wallace A. and his wife located in Marshall in 1902, where they now reside. They bought 240 acres of land in Stanley township, which they still own, and also the Beebe place of six acres just east of town, where they make their home. They have two children living, J. C. Woodruff, proprietor of a dray line in Marshall, and Frank L., who after coming to Marshall assisted in running his father's farm.

The grandfather, Joseph C. Woodruff, was a participant in the Indian outbreak of 1862, being a member of the Winnebago City Guards. Wallace A. Woodruff enlisted in Company H, First Minnesota Heavy Artillery, and served during the last year of the Civil War, and at the time of the assassination of Lincoln he was stationed at Chattanooga.

DANIEL F. SALMON (1890) is manager of the Western Elevator Company's elevator at Taunton. He is a son of William and Ellen (Gould) Salmon, both natives of Ireland. They came to the United States when young and settled in Illinois, where they were married. In 1881 they came to Lyon county, where the father died a few years later. The mother now resides in Minneapolis with a daughter. The family still own the old farm in Lyon county.

Daniel was born in Bloomington, Illinois, June 27, 1872, and resided there with his grandparents until eighteen years of age. In 1890 he came to Lyon county and joined his parents, who had moved here in 1881. He resided with them about nine years. He attended the Marshall High School and taught school five terms. Later he returned to the farm and operated it several years.

In 1898 Mr. Salmon went to Minneapolis and worked three years as a motorman for the Twin City Rapid Transit Company. His next move was to Waverly, South Dakota, where he had charge of a grain elevator and lumber yard. In 1903 he moved to Taunton, where he has since been manager of the Western elevator. Mr. Salmon is also engaged in the butcher business, having started a shop in 1908. Our subject is a member of the M. W. A. lodge and has been justice

of the peace in Taunton eight years. He is a member of the Village Council and the School Board.

Mr. Salmon was married at Ghent June 1, 1904, to Mary L. Regnier, a native of Kankakee county, Illinois. Mr. and Mrs. Salmon are the parents of three children: Joseph D., Edwin and Allen.

FRANK E. HOOK (1901) is proprietor of the Mint Saloon in Tracy. He was born in West Bend, Wisconsin, September 10, 1866. His father was Eugene F. Hook, a native of Germany who came to the United States when a year old with his parents and settled on the land where the city of Milwaukee now stands. At that time Milwaukee was a hamlet of eight or ten houses. He was married there to Mandeline Strahmyer. They moved to Grundy Center, Iowa, and to Cedar Falls in 1881. In 1901 they came to Lyon county and bought land in Monroe township where the father died November 16, 1907, aged sixty-three years. Mrs. Hook resides in Tracy.

In 1872 Frank Hook accompanied his parents to Grundy Center, Iowa, and in 1881 to Cedar Falls, Iowa, where he resided on the farm with his parents until twenty-seven years of age. He then entered the employ of the Diamond Joe Line of steamers, which plied between Memphis, Tennessee, and Stillwater, Minnesota. He served as fireman two years, was promoted, and served as chief engineer ten or eleven years. His headquarters were at St. Louis during that service.

In 1901 Mr. Hook came to Lyon county and farmed in Monroe township seven years. In April, 1908, he purchased the Mint Saloon of J. W. Alexander and has since conducted the place. Mr. Hook is a member of the Eagles lodge. He was school treasurer four years and has served as road overseer in Monroe township.

At Tracy, on June 28, 1910, occurred the marriage of our subject to Zetta Rudd.

EMIL J. KRUEGER (1906), after being in business more than twenty years, came to Lyon county six years ago, bought the south half of section 21, Monroe township, and engaged in agricultural pursuits. He has

made many improvements on his farm, including tiling, fencing, etc., and is becoming interested in stock raising. He is president of and was responsible for the organization of the Farmers Club of Tracy in March, 1912, the club now having a membership of 100.

Our subject was born near Hamburg, Germany, October 6, 1866. His father, Carl Krueger, was a steel mill worker. He died some years ago in Germany. The mother, Mary (Waute) Krueger, lives in Hamburg. Emil was brought up and educated in Germany, and when sixteen years of age he came to America and located at Peotone, Illinois, where he lived until 1898, most of the time being employed in a general store. In 1898 he moved to Manteno, Illinois, and engaged in the general merchandise business for himself, making his home in Manteno eight years and then coming to Lyon county and buying the farm where he now resides. While a resident of Manteno Mr. Krueger was a member of the Village Council four years, and he was city clerk two years during his residence in Peotone.

Emil J. Krueger was married at Manteno, Illinois, to Grace Smith, the ceremony taking place April 16, 1900. His wife was born in Manteno May 3, 1878. To this union a daughter, Dorothy, was born March 16, 1910. Mr. Krueger has one son, Walter Krueger, by a former marriage. Our subject is a member of the Catholic church. His fraternal affiliations are with the Modern Woodmen lodge of Tracy.

HARRY C. MILLER (1905), painter, paperhanger and decorator of Marshall, was born at Sterling, Nebraska, August 15, 1873. When he was a child he accompanied his parents to Lincoln, Nebraska, where he resided many years and learned his trade.

After mastering his trade Mr. Miller worked as a journeyman painter for several years in that part of the country extending from Toledo, Ohio, and Chicago to the Pacific Coast. He was at Ottumwa, Iowa, three years, and in 1905 he located in Marshall, opened a shop, and has ever since resided in that city. He has decorated and painted the interior of the Methodist church, the Carnegie library, city hall, the M. W. A. building, and a number of residences.

Mr. Miller was married at Montgomery,

Minnesota, October 5, 1898, to Lydia Wolf, a native of the village in which she was married. Mr. and Mrs. Miller have three children: Edna, Evelyn and Matah.

Our subject is a son of Oliver and Kate (Greenfield) Miller, who were pioneers of Nebraska, having settled at Sterling before the coming of the railroad. The father was born in Germany, the mother in New York. There are six sons in the family, as follows: Luther, of Sterling, Nebraska; Harry, of this sketch; Frank, of Ottumwa, Iowa; Lester, of Marshall; Clyde of Adams, Nebraska; Robert, of Lincoln, Nebraska.

JOHN WAMBEKE (1886) owns 480 acres of land in Westerheim township and is one of the successful farmers of the community. He was born in Belgium July 8, 1872. His parents were Ferdinand and Rosalie Wambeke, who came to this country and settled in Fairview township in 1886. John received his early education in his native land and attended the country schools for a short time after the family came to this country. His mother died in 1910 and his father one year later.

John began farming when a young man. He has always been a hard worker and a careful manager, and those qualities with a thorough knowledge of the best methods of farming have brought him success. He has in the last ten years bought 480 acres of fine land, which is increasing in value every year.

The marriage of our subject to Sadie Van Daele, a native of Belgium, occurred in Ghent February 4, 1902. To this union six children have been born, named Ferdinand, Bertha, Lenora, Elizabeth, Anna Maria and Leona Maria.

John Wambeke has living three brothers and four sisters, as follows: Charlie, Henry, Peter, Mrs. John Tholen, Mrs. Frank Buysse, Mrs. Adolph De Vose and Mrs. August De Sutter. Mr. Wambeke is a member of the Catholic church of Minneota.

ANDREW JOHNSON (1902) is manager of the Laird-Norton Yards at Balaton and has been a resident of that village ten years. Sweden is the country of his nativity and he was born October 10, 1873. He came to

America in 1892 and has ever since lived in Minnesota.

Mr. Johnson located at Stewartville, Olmsted county. Near that place he engaged in farming for a number of years, and for three years he worked in a lumber yard in the village. He moved to Balaton in 1902, worked in the Hayes-Lucas yard until 1907, and then accepted the position of manager of the Laird-Norton Yards, which he has since held.

The company for which Mr. Johnson works was the first to engage in the lumber business in Balaton. It was established as the Laird-Norton Company, Incorporated, in 1855 and changed to its present title in 1900. The general offices are at Winona and the officers are M. G. Norton, president; F. A. Thatcher, vice president; F. S. Bell, secretary and treasurer; O. M. Batchford, manager. The company has 110 yards in South Dakota and Minnesota and deals in all kinds of building material, coal, etc.

Mr. Johnson was married at Balaton December 29, 1910, to Nora S. Sorenson, a native of Illinois. They have recently erected a fine home in the village. Mr. Johnson is a member of the Modern Woodmen and Workmen lodges.

JOHN E. KLEINE (1903), Lake Marshall township farmer, was born in Hanover, Germany, December 28, 1871. He received a common school education in the land of his birth, coming to the United States when seventeen years of age and locating at Le Mars, Iowa. He worked on different farms near Le Mars until 1899, when he married, rented land, and started farming for himself.

In 1903 Mr. Kleine came to Lyon county and purchased the northwest quarter of section 30, Lake Marshall township, where he now lives. Later he purchased the east half of the southeast quarter of section 25, Lynd township. Mr. Kleine is a member of the German Lutheran church. He served four years as director of school district No. 7.

Mr. Kleine was married at Le Mars, Iowa, March 8, 1899, to Katherine Ahlfs, a native of Hanover, Germany. She is a daughter of John H. and Anna (Renkin) Ahlfs. The former died in Germany at the age of seventy-one years and the latter at the age of seventy-three. Mrs. Kleine was born August

19, 1876. To this union was born one child, Anna L., born July 16, 1901, died April 14, 1911.

HARVEY H. ADAIR (1895) is a well driller and a dealer in windmills and pumps in Marshall. He was born in Green county, Wisconsin, May 23, 1866, a son of Ezra and Elizabeth (Cummins) Adair, the former a native of Canada and the latter of the United States. The parents are deceased. In the family are eight children: Harvey H., of this sketch; Charles, of Marshall; Alex, Ezra, Maud and Josephine (Mrs. Fred Willard), of Artesian, South Dakota; Bertha (Mrs. Ed. Willard), of Pierre, South Dakota; and Libbie (Mrs. Carl Santee), of South Dakota.

When four years of age our subject went to Parsons, Kansas, and lived on a farm with his parents until 1885, when he moved to Sanborn county, South Dakota, where he farmed and conducted a well drilling machine until 1895. In the latter year he came to Lyon county, located at Marshall, and has since been engaged in the well business. He is one of the best and oldest well drillers in the county, having learned the business under his father, who was an expert at the business. He makes all kinds of tubular wells and handles windmills and pumps. Mr. Adair is a member of the Modern Woodmen and Royal Neighbors lodges.

On January 4, 1887, at Carthage, South Dakota, occurred the marriage of Mr. Adair to Louise Boudine. To this union were born the following children: Ethel, Clyde and Leslie. Mr. Adair was married a second time at Northville, South Dakota, on January 24, 1905, to Magdaline Pluman, a native of Minneapolis. They have two children: Margaret and Angeline.

CLAUS FRAHM (1904) is the blacksmith in the village of Lynd. He is a native of Schleswig-Holstein, Germany, and was born March 16, 1849. He is the son of Jerry and Wibke Frahm. The father died in 1852, in Germany, and the mother died in 1889, in Tama county, Iowa.

Our subject received his education in the land of his nativity, where he attended school until seventeen years of age. In 1866 he

moved to Scott county, Iowa, where he resided a short time, working at farm labor. He then went to Jackson county, where he remained a year, engaged in the same work, and then went to Clinton county, Iowa, where he remained a year. We next find our subject in Tama county, Iowa, where he resided eighteen years. While there he and an older brother conducted a blacksmith shop. In 1888 he moved to O'Brien county, Iowa, where he rented a farm and operated it until 1904. During that time he was superintendent of the county farm.

In 1894 Mr. Frahm came to Lyon county and rented a farm near Lynd, which he operated for seven years and then moved to the village of Lynd, where he opened the blacksmith shop which he still operates. Mr. Frahm is a member of the German Lutheran church.

In 1876 the subject of this biography was united in marriage to Annie Klink, a native of Germany and a daughter of Jerry Burns. Mr. Burns died several years ago. Mrs. Frahm died February 27, 1906. Mr. and Mrs. Frahm were the parents of the following children: Julius, Herman, Theodore, George, Frank, Annie, Ella.

NELDER ERIKSRUD (1902) has lived within a short distance of Tracy since he was two years old. For the last ten years he has been a resident of the city, working at teaming and engaging in buying and selling horses. In 1910 he was made police officer of the city.

The subject of our sketch was born in Fillmore county, Minnesota, January 21, 1876. In 1878 the family moved to Murray county and located just south of Tracy. Nelder grew up on the home farm and worked with his father for some years. He and his brother Lawrence eventually bought the farm and ran it until ten years ago, when Nelder moved to Tracy. He still owns the farm south of town.

Nelder Eriksrud is the son of Martin and Mary Eriksrud, natives of Norway who came to this country and located in Wisconsin early in life. They were married in Wisconsin and later moved to Fillmore county, Minnesota. In 1878 the family moved to Murray county and bought land just over the Lyon-Murray county line. Mrs. Eriksrud died

about twenty years ago; the father lives in Tracy, aged seventy-five years.

Mr. Eriksrud has made an able and efficient officer and his attention to his duty is appreciated.

HERMAN HENRICHS (1891) was born in Bremer county, Iowa, October 5, 1883. He resides in Coon Creek township, where he has operated his brother's farm for the past three years. His parents are Fred and Frederica (Froest) Henrichs, the former a native of Germany and the latter of New York State. They settled in Bremer county in an early day. In 1887 they moved to Hand county, South Dakota, where the father homesteaded land, which he later sold, and the family moved to Lyon county. Mr. Henrichs purchased land near Burchard, and it was there that our subject received his schooling and grew to manhood. He resided with his parents until 1906, when he rented a farm near Russell on which he resided until moving to his brother's farm. Our subject raises considerable stock.

Mr. Henrichs was married in Marshall, Minnesota, to Nettie Peterson, a native of Iowa. They were married February 21, 1907. Mrs. Henrichs is a daughter of James and Amelia (Hansen) Peterson. To Mr. and Mrs. Henrichs have been born the following children: Glen, born March 21, 1908; Evelyn, born February 7, 1910; and Earl, born September 5, 1911.

ANTON HOMMERBERG (1904) is manager of the Lyon County Co-operative Company's store at Balaton. He was born in Scandia township, Murray county, Minnesota, July 24, 1877. His parents are Carl M. and Ingre Hommerberg, natives of Sweden who came to the United States in 1870 and located in Murray county, where they still reside. They are the parents of four children: John, a farmer of Murray county; Anton, of this sketch; Edwin and Wilhelm, who reside at home.

Anton made his home with his parents in Murray county until 1902. He received his education in the public schools and in Gustavus Adolphus College, from which he was graduated in 1908. In 1903 he went to Currie, Minnesota, and clerked in a store one

year, then to Balaton, where he clerked three years in the general store of F. J. Breening. In May, 1908, the Lyon County Co-operative Company was organized and he was engaged as manager, a position which he has held since.

The Lyon County Co-operative Company was organized in May, 1908, by a number of farmers in the vicinity of Balaton. The company is capitalized for \$50,000 and is incorporated. The officers are as follows: President, F. F. Norwood; vice president, F. S. Bartlett; treasurer, J. E. Miller; secretary, Morton Hjermstad; manager, Anton Hommerberg. They carry a complete line of hardware, machinery and general merchandise. The store occupies the fine new store block of the First National Bank.

ISAAC N. OLEVSON (1891) bought land on section 19, Westerheim township, in the seventies, but it was many years later when he came to Lyon county and commenced to farm his land. He has a well-improved place of 400 acres, farms it all, and raises considerable stock for market. Mr. Olevson has just completed one of the largest barns in the township, the structure being 52x80 feet.

Nels and Betsey (Brien) Olevson, parents of Isaac, came to this country from Norway in 1857, settled in McHenry county, Illinois, where they remained three years, and in 1859 moved to Chicago. That city was then only a village, and Nels Olevson ran a dairy. He and his wife were residents of the city until their deaths in 1873 and 1881, respectively.

Isaac was born in Norway July 3, 1846, and came to this country with his parents. The boy's youth was mostly spent in Chicago, and when a lad of only eighteen years he enlisted in Company F, Eighth Illinois Cavalry, and served in the Army of the Potomac during the latter part of the war, being honorably discharged in 1865. He then returned to Chicago and entered the railroad business in the capacity of fireman.

Young Olevson in a few years was promoted to engineer on the Chicago & Northwestern line and ran for many years between Chicago and Clinton, Iowa, and later between Watertown and Brookings, South Dakota. His health failed and in search of other occupation he came to Lyon county and has

since been farming the land he bought many years ago. Mr. Olevson was in Chicago at the time of the great fire of 1871, and during the time that the city's drinking water supply was destroyed he hauled water by train from Elmhurst to the stricken city.

Isaac Olevson married Martha Leland in Chicago in 1872. She is a native of Dane county, Wisconsin, and by her marriage to Mr. Olevson became the mother of the following children: Fillmore, of Washington State; Mabel (Mrs. Asa Conger), of Lyon county; Beatrice (Mrs. Nickolai Orsen), of Westerheim; Bertrand, on the farm; George and Williard, at home. Mr. Olevson has one sister living, Josephine, a resident of Chicago.

Our subject is a member of the Masonic lodge, having joined in Watertown, and has taken the degrees admitting him to the Commandery and the Knight Templars. Mr. Olevson served as justice of the peace two years.

CHARLES M. SNAPP (1885), of Marshall, has lived in Lyon county since he was fifteen years old. He was born in Bourbon county, Kentucky, October 5, 1870, lived in Illinois with his parents from 1881 to 1885, and since then has been a resident of Lyon county, most of the time engaged in farming.

Jacob and Sarah (Mann) Snapp, the parents of our subject, were born and married in Nicholas county, Kentucky. The former served in the Kentucky Home Guards during the Civil War. The family moved to Marshall in 1885 and Mr. Snapp has since lived in that city, spending most of his summers with his children in Kentucky. Mrs. Snapp died in Marshall July 14, 1908, at the age of seventy-two years. Mr. Snapp is now eighty-five years of age.

The children of the Snapp family are as follows: Marian, Aaron and William, of Kentucky; Floyd, Corilla (Mrs. Wesley Holt), Samuel, Charles M., Annie, deceased; Stella and Calla (Mrs. Victor J. LaVoy), of Marshall.

GEORGE O. LARSON (1896) farms the northwest quarter of section 13, Nordland township. He was born in Woonsocket, South Dakota, July 22, 1886, a son of An-

drew and Betsey (Hauge) Larson. The father was born in Denmark and the mother in Iowa. For a number of years Andrew Larson operated a bus line in Woonsocket. In 1896 he moved with his family to Lyon county and farmed rented land in Eidsvold township ten years.

George began his schooling in Woonsocket and completed his education in the schools of Minneota. In 1904 he began to work out at farm labor and in 1905 and 1906 he worked in the railroad shops at Brainerd and Two Harbors, Minnesota. In the fall of the year last mentioned he and his brother Louis bought eighty acres of timber land in Todd county, Minnesota, and spent the following winter there. He returned to Lyon county in the spring of 1907, worked as a farm hand two years, married in 1909, and commenced farming. He now makes his home with his mother-in-law and farms the northwest quarter of section 13. He and his wife are members of the Free Norwegian church.

Mr. Larson was married in Minneota July 15, 1909, to Josephine B. Bjerkan. She was born in Eau Claire, Wisconsin, November 3, 1873, was educated in the Appleton High School and in the Minnesota Business College at Minneapolis, and for nine years taught Lyon county district schools. Mr. and Mrs. Larson have one child, Alfred O., born March 4, 1911.

Mrs. Larson's father was Ole J. Bjerkan. He was born in Trondhjem, Norway, June 5, 1826, came to the United States in 1865, and to Lyon county in 1878. He bought the northwest quarter of section 13, Nordland township, and engaged in farming it until his death on May 13, 1905. Mrs. Larson's mother is Karen (Larson) Bjerkan. She was born in Nanestad, Norway, June 25, 1844, and came to America and located in Rushford, Minnesota, in 1869. She still makes her home on the old farm in Nordland.

A. G. BETOURNE (1897), proprietor of the Monogram Saloon of Tracy, was born in Kankakee county, Illinois, August 4, 1859. He is one of a family of six children born to Mose and Rosa Lee (Beniouw) Betourne, natives of Canada. The former is deceased; the latter makes her home in Kankakee county, Illinois.

Until he was twenty-eight years of age A. G. Betourne lived on his father's farm; then he located in Kankakee and engaged in the saloon business until moving to Lyon county in 1897. The first year of his residence in the county Mr. Betourne tended bar for Gits & Vergote, at Marshall. He took up his residence in Tracy thereafter, tended bar for W. B. Keller four years, and then purchased the business he has since conducted. Mr. Betourne owns his home in Tracy. He is a member of the Eagles lodge.

The subject of this review was married in Chicago March 8, 1897, to Amy Rexstrew, who is also a native of Kankakee county. Mr. and Mrs. Betourne have three children, Fern, Euclide and Alice.

DUNCAN L. KENNEDY (1887) is a lawyer of the city of Marshall. He is a native of Wisconsin and was born December 30, 1881, a son of D. Ward and Flora (Keter) Kennedy, natives of Wisconsin.

When six years of age our subject came to Lyon county and made his home with his grandfather, Judge D. A. Kennedy, on a farm in Island Lake township, one year, after which he moved to Marshall and was graduated from the Marshall High School in 1900. He then attended Hamline University two and one-half years, after which he returned to Marshall and was employed in the law office of Thomas E. Davis two years. He then went to Wisconsin and learned the printer's trade, which he followed until February, 1909, when he returned to Marshall and read law in the office of Davis & Michel. He was admitted to the state bar in June, 1911, and entered the firm of Davis & Michel, where he has since been engaged. He is a member of the B. P. O. E. and the M. W. A. lodges.

Mr. Kennedy has been prominent in athletics since boyhood and while at Hamline University took an active part in athletic sports and was a member of the Hamline University football teams of 1902-03-04. He was equally prominent in other branches of athletics while at Hamline. He was admittedly one of the best all-around athletes that ever attended Hamline University. During his three years of football he was placed on the "All-Minnesota" team by the newspaper

critics in as many different positions, as half-back, guard and end.

His prowess on the cinder path was scarcely less. Among his numerous records are the following: Fifty-yard dash, 5 3-5 seconds; one hundred-yard dash, 10 2-5 seconds; running high jump, 5 feet 5 inches; running broad jump, 22 feet 4 inches; running hop, step and jump, 44 feet 4 1-2 inches; 16-pound shot put, 37 feet 7 inches. Mr. Kennedy was also a member of the baseball and basketball teams of Hamline and enjoyed the unique distinction of being the first student at the university who made every athletic team during his freshman year. In addition to these various athletic honors, he was elected president of the "Class of 1905" during his freshman year.

OSCAR A. KROOK (1886), postmaster of Marshall, has resided in Lyon county many years, most of the time as a resident of the county seat city. He was born in Sweden, the son of Nels Olson Krook and Boel (Ljungberg) Krook, both of whom are buried in their native land. There are seven children in the family, as follows: Edward O. Krook, of Clinton, Minnesota; Augusta (Mrs. John Leveau), Carl O. and Theodore, all of Sweden; Oscar A., of this sketch; Anna A. (Mrs. Nels Nelson) and Marie, both of Sweden.

During his boyhood days Oscar Krook attended school and when a young man left Sweden and came to America. He first landed at Red Wing, Minnesota, where he worked in a furniture factory during the summer months to earn the means to continue his studies in the English schools during the winter months. He came to Marshall in 1886 and learned the tinner's trade in the store of J. P. Watson, working continuously five years. Mr. Krook then went to Minneapolis and took a course in the Minnesota School of Business. Returning to Marshall, he again entered the employ of Mr. Watson, as bookkeeper and clerk, and continued in his employ one year.

Our subject then engaged in the hardware and furniture business at Balaton as a member of the firm of Krook & Tyler. Five months after the business was established the store was destroyed by fire and Mr. Krook was left practically penniless.



DR. L. E. IJAMS  
Physician of Osteopathy of Marshall.



O. A. KROOK  
Postmaster of Marshall.



D. L. KENNEDY  
Member of the Marshall Law Firm of Davis,  
Michel & Kennedy.



FRANK CASE  
Sporting Editor of the Lyon County  
Reporter.



He again took up his residence in the county seat and for a time was employed as book-keeper for Watson & Chace. Mr. Krook then went to Winona and took employment with R. D. Cone & Co., wholesale and retail hardware dealers. For three years he was manager of the retail department and for four years was a traveling representative of the firm. At the end of that period Mr. Krook again located in Marshall and for some time was in the office of Thomas E. Davis, working at the insurance business and other work. He was appointed postmaster of Marshall by President Roosevelt in 1907 and was reappointed by President Taft in 1911.

Mr. Krook was married in Marshall on August 31, 1900, to Mary A. Davis, daughter of Reese Davis, who was one of the early settlers of Lyon county. Mrs. Krook was born on her father's homestead near Tracy. Three children have been born as a result of this union, namely, Alfred T., born in September, 1902; Marion J., born in January, 1909; and Robert D., born May 12, 1911. Mr. Krook is a member of the Masonic and Yeomen lodges.

FRANK W. CASE (1875), editor and proprietor of the Lyon County Reporter, has spent all except the first six months of his life in Marshall. He was born at Waverly, Iowa, September 20, 1874, the son of C. F. and Fannie (Waller) Case, who are also residents of Marshall.

When Frank was six months of age he accompanied his parents to Marshall, the family making the trip from New Ulm by wagon and arriving at their destination in a raging blizzard. He received his primary education in the Marshall High School and then spent one year working in his father's printing office. He then became a student in the University of Minnesota, from which institution he was graduated in 1898.

After his school days Frank assumed the management of the Reporter and later became sole owner. He has built the paper up to its present standing—one of the leading publications of Southwestern Minnesota with a great influence.

Mr. Case was married at Marshall June 28, 1901, to Edith Joyce Caley. She is a native of Lyon county and a daughter of Charles

Caley, a pioneer settler. Mr. and Mrs. Case have four children, Maurine, Eugene, Mertia and Beatrice.

Mr. Case holds membership in the Masonic, Woodmen and Brotherhood lodges and is secretary of the last named order. He has been a member of the Marshall Fire Department a number of years and has been its president.

DR. L. E. IJAMS (1910) is a practising doctor of osteopathy of Marshall. He is the son of Thomas L. and Rosetta (Walker) Ijams, the former a native of Zanesville, Ohio, and the latter of Bloomington, Illinois. The father died in 1908; the mother lives at Farmer City, Illinois.

In DeWitt county, Illinois, on September 30, 1877, the subject of this biography was born, and on his parents' farm in that county he grew to manhood. He received his general education in the district schools, in the high school at Farmer City, and in the schools of Quincy. For a time he clerked in clothing stores and was a traveling salesman with the Dayton Spice Mill Company. Mr. Ijams then took up the study of osteopathy as his life's profession. He was graduated from the Still College of Osteopathy at Des Moines, Iowa, and has since been engaged in practice. He opened an office in Marshall in June, 1910, has built up a lucrative practice, and is popular in church and social circles.

Dr. Ijams was married at Springfield, Illinois, on September 7, 1905, to Ethel E. Hall, a native of the city in which she was married. Dr. and Mrs. Ijams have three children: Byron, Walker and Elouise. The doctor is a member of the A. F. & A. M., Eastern Star and Calumet fraternities and of the Methodist church. He has membership in the American Osteopathic Association, as well as in the state and Southern Minnesota associations.

Our subject is one of a family of ten children, five boys and five girls. Their names are Harvey, Hattie, Ida, George, Millard, Lewis E., John, Ella, Edyth, Edna, and all are living.

JAMES T. ROGAN (1880), who farms the southwest quarter of section 11, Eidsvold

township, has lived on that place since he was less than three years of age and for the past twenty years has had the management of the farm.

Thomas and Catherine (Boland) Rogan, the parents of our subject, were born and married in Ireland. After their marriage they came to America and for a number of years lived in Chicago. The father was a prospector and miner and before the family became residents of Lyon county he was engaged in mining in the West. A few years after his family moved to Lyon county he came and made his home here until his death in 1900. There are five children in the family, as follows: Mary (Mrs. Ed. Kelly), of Alberta, Canada; Ann (Mrs. Pat Kiley), of Minneota; Kate, who lives at home; Bridget (Mrs. John Kiley), of Minneota; and James T.

James T. Rogan was born in Chicago August 15, 1877, and in the spring of 1880 he accompanied his mother, brothers and sisters to Lyon county. Mrs. Rogan bought the farm at that time and still makes her home there. James was brought up on that place and has always lived there. He is unmarried and makes his home with his mother and sister. He is a member of the Catholic church of Minneota and of the Yeomen lodge.

PAR. O. ANDERSON (1897) since May 1, 1903, has been the buttermaker at the Garvin creamery. He is a native of Sweden and was born June 5, 1868, a son of Andrew O. and Ingar Anderson, who located at Clear Lake, Sherburne county, Minnesota, upon coming to the United States. Andrew O. Anderson died August 31, 1901. They were the parents of six children, five of whom are living: Par. O., of this sketch; Andrew O., Noven, Adel and Hjalmar. One son, Oscar, is dead.

The subject of this sketch came with his parents to Clear Lake, Minnesota, in 1888, and in 1893 he located at Richmond, Stearns county, where he operated a creamery two years. He then moved to Tracy, where he conducted a creamery five years, and at the end of that time he took employment with the Thompson Creamery Company of Marshall and operated one of their creameries at French Lake, Wright county. Then he

went to the Marshall Creamery Company and was buttermaker eight months. He moved to Garvin May 1, 1903, where he has had charge of the creamery since that date. Mr. Anderson is a member of the Congregational church and the Modern Woodmen and Maccabee lodges.

At Tracy, Minnesota, on December 6, 1902, Emma Busk became the wife of Mr. Anderson. She is a native of Sweden and is a daughter of Andrew Busk. Mr. and Mrs. Anderson have two children, namely, Ernest and Sigfrid.

CHARLES E. PLANTZ (1907) farms the northwest quarter of section 11, Island Lake township, and has been a resident of Lyon county five years. He was born in Blackhawk county, Iowa, November 26, 1872. His father and mother, Jacob and Sarah (Sands) Plantz, were natives of New York and Michigan, respectively, and both are dead. They were early settlers of Iowa.

When he was ten years old Charles accompanied the family to Humboldt county, Iowa, and there he finished his schooling and grew to manhood. He worked out several years and in 1897 he rented land and began farming for himself. He owned a half interest in a 120-acre farm there, his brother Elias owning the other half, but he later disposed of that property.

In 1906 Mr. Plantz moved to Rothsay, Wilkin county, Minnesota, and farmed rented land there four years. He spent one year in Superior, Wisconsin, working in the ship yards and the railroad. His arrival to Lyon county was in 1907. The first season he worked out and during the next two years he farmed 200 acres of O. C. Gregg's farm. He rented the northwest quarter of section 15, Island Lake township, one year, and in 1911 he moved to his present place.

At Humboldt, Iowa, on January 15, 1902, Mr. Plantz was married to Mrs. Ione J. Donaldson. She is the daughter of O. J. and Mary (Larson) Conklin, now of Livermore, Iowa, and she was born at Lake Mills, Iowa, December 30, 1879. They have two children, Viola I. and Darial L. By her former marriage Mrs. Plantz has one son, Roy Donaldson. Mr. Plantz is a member of the Masonic lodge.

EMERY G. FULLER (1890) is one of the proprietors of the Marshall Bottling Works. In March, 1912, he and Edward De Clerk bought the establishment from A. C. Porter and are now actively pushing the sale of bottled soft drinks and of Silver Spring water.

Mr. Fuller is a native of Lyon county and was born January 1, 1890, on his father's farm, the southwest quarter of section 13, Lake Marshall township. He was brought up on the farm and came to Marshall in 1908, entering the employ of A. C. Porter in the bottling works and holding the position of foreman up to the time of buying the plant with Mr. De Clerk. The business is a good one and should keep growing under the efficient management and hustling qualities of the owners.

Emery Fuller is a son of Walter A. and Emily Jane (Buck) Fuller, who have been residents of Lyon county for nearly thirty years. His father is a native of Illinois and Mrs. Fuller is a New York State woman. The parents still live on the Lake Marshall township farm where they made their home when first coming to Lyon county. Besides Emery, they were the parents of the following children: Carrie, Frank, Linus, Clarence, Harry, Bertha, Roy, Eva, Hattie, Ernest and Robert.

FRED LARSON (1896), a successful farmer and stock raiser of Shelburne township, was born in Thorning, Sogn, Denmark, April 25, 1869. His parents were Thomas and Katrina (Lair) Larson, both of whom are now dead.

Our subject received his early education in Denmark, where he attended the common schools until fourteen years of age. He then worked for his father on the home farm for eight years. Like many of his countrymen, he believed the United States offered great opportunities to the young man, and in 1891 he came to this country, locating in Washington county, Nebraska, where he remained one year. Moving to Clay county, Iowa, Fred worked as a farm hand three years, then rented a place and farmed for himself one year.

In the spring of 1896 Mr. Larson came to Minnesota and located in Pipestone county, near Ruthton, where he purchased fifty acres

of land. During the rest of that year he worked out, teaming. In February of the following year our subject purchased the farm upon which he now resides. He conducts a splendid cattle, horse and hog raising business in addition to his general farming. Mr. Larson is a member of the Danish Lutheran church of Ruthton and is chairman of the board of school district No. 57.

On October 20, 1896, our subject was married to Johanna Christine Paulson, a resident of Shelburne township and a native of Denmark. She was born September 28, 1878, and her parents were Jess and Christina (Jacobson) Paulson, who now reside at Ruthton.

Three children have been born to Fred and Johanna Larson: Jess, born June 27, 1899; Dewey Thomas, born July 18, 1905; and Geneva Christina Katrina, born February 12, 1908.

J. DELBERT GILPIN (1912), editor of the Tracy Headlight, was born near Dunkirk, Ohio, January 10, 1876. J. P. and Lucindia (Tidrick) Gilpin, his parents, were also natives of Ohio and died in Nebraska.

The subject of this review attended school in his native state until sixteen years of age and then accompanied his parents to Nebraska. In that state he attended school a short time, clerked in a store, and taught school. He became a student of the University of Nebraska and later entered the Minnesota University, from the Academic Department of which he was graduated.

After his graduation Mr. Gilpin was superintendent of the Wayzata public schools two years. In May, 1912, he purchased the Tracy Headlight and has since conducted that journal. He is a member of the Methodist church of Tracy.

Mr. Gilpin was married at Tracy August 1, 1906, to Luella Grace Larson, who was born in Redwood county in February, 1886. Mr. and Mrs. Gilpin have one child, Gladys Lucile, born August 7, 1907.

GEORGE OSSEN (1900) is one of the most extensive farmers and stock raisers of Lyons township. He was born in Ber-

gen, Norway, May 2, 1851. His parents were Ole and Sunive Ossen, both of whom died in the old country. George received his schooling and grew to manhood in the land of his nativity.

When seventeen years of age our subject came to America with his brother, Severt, and located in Winneshiek county, Iowa, where he worked at farm labor three years. He then purchased eighty acres of land in Hancock county and farmed eight years. His next move was to Winnebago county, where he purchased 240 acres of land and farmed until 1900.

In the latter year Mr. Ossen sold his Iowa farm, came to Lyon county, and purchased 441 acres of land on section 31, Lyons township. He has made his home there continuously since. In addition to his extensive farming interests, Mr. Ossen makes a specialty of feeding and shipping cattle and hogs. He is a shareholder of the Farmers Elevator Company and of the First State Bank of Russell. He is president of the former company and a director of the bank. Mr. Ossen was chairman of the Township Board of Supervisors eight years. He is one of the largest land owners of Lyons township.

In Winneshiek county, June 24, 1874, Mr. Ossen was united in marriage to Betsey T. Fosse, a native of Bergen, Norway. She was born October 23, 1851, and is a daughter of Torkfield and Christie (Tweet) Fosse. Mr. and Mrs. Ossen are the parents of the following named eight children: Sophia S., born February 3, 1875; Thireld O., born November 16, 1876; Joseph A., born May 8, 1881; Lawrence, born July 9, 1883; John M., born December 20, 1888; Bessie S., born September 3, 1885; Alice R., born March 13, 1892; Gertrude, born January 29, 1896.

WILLIAM A. MOORE (1884), proprietor of a Marshall dray-line, was born in Clark county, Wisconsin, November 20, 1882. When he was two years old he was brought by his parents to Lyon county, the family home being established on section 18, Lake Marshall township, where the father purchased eighty acres of land.

On the Lake Marshall township farm

William Moore spent his boyhood days, working for his father until eighteen years of age. Since then he has been shifting for himself. He worked out for a year and then, his father having died, he returned to the farm and conducted it until 1907. That year he located in Marshall and for four and one-half years was employed on the J. C. Woodruff dray line. In April, 1912, he engaged in business for himself, establishing the third dray line. Mr. Moore is a member of the Modern Woodmen and Royal Neighbors lodges.

Our subject is one of a family of eight children, the others being Daniel, Mary, Sarah, Rose Ann, Martin, Robert and Theresa. Their parents are the late Anthony Moore and Charlotte E. (Minnick) Moore. The father was born in Ireland and the mother in Philadelphia. They came West when young and were married in Wisconsin. Anthony Moore died on the farm in Lake Marshall township in 1900 at the age of fifty-two years. Mrs. Moore resides in town, and William A. makes his home with her.

CHRISTIAN H. KELLER (1909) is a new arrival to Lyon county and farms the northeast quarter of section 11, Lynd township. He is a native of Illinois and was born at Kankakee February 2, 1867, a son of Conrad and Elizabeth (Meier) Keller. The father of our subject resides at Kankakee, Illinois, where he moved after his retirement from active farm labors.

Our subject received his early education in his native town. After leaving school he entered the employ of his father on the farm, where he worked until twenty-three years of age, when he started farming for himself.

Mr. Keller is a member of the Methodist church. Fraternally he is affiliated with the M. W. A. and the Yeomen of America lodges. He is a stockholder of the Farmers Elevator Company of Marshall. For two years he was an assessor in Kankakee county, Illinois, and was trustee of school district No. 1 in the same county.

On March 19, 1890, Christian Keller was united in marriage to Mary Hartung,

a daughter of Isaiah and Louisa (Stanton) Hartung. To this union have been born the following six children: Harry William, born July 13, 1891; Hattie Elizabeth, born December 16, 1893; Frank Elmer, born August 20, 1898; Bertha Louise, born November 12, 1900; Lester C., born April 22, 1903; Weldon Conrad, born February 16, 1911. All reside at home with their parents.

JOSEPH L. NELSON (1904) is the proprietor of a billiard and pool hall in Cottonwood. He is a native Minnesotan and was born at Pipestone October 12, 1879. His parents are John and Annie Randena (Okre) Nelson, natives of Allamakee county, Iowa. The father died in 1890. They were the parents of five children, named as follows: Otto, Selma, Clara, Hulda and Joseph L. The mother was married a second time, to Ole Ostenson. The grandparents of our subject are Ole and Aslank Nelson, natives of Norway, who came to the United States in a very early day and settled in Allamakee county.

Joseph Nelson resided at Pipestone, where he received his education and also learned the carpenter's trade, until 1903. In 1904 he came to Lyon county with his mother and sisters and located at Cottonwood. He later went to Hanley, Saskatchewan, Canada, and worked at the carpenter's trade a year. He then worked at Minot, Aneta and Cooperstown, North Dakota, at the same trade two years, when he returned to Cottonwood. Upon his return he purchased his mother's restaurant and conducted it until February, 1911, when he sold and opened a pool and billiard hall. He installed an entirely new outfit.

Mr. Nelson was married at Cottonwood June 29, 1910, to Clara Elmer, a native of Cottonwood and a daughter of John Elmer. Mr. and Mrs. Nelson have one child, Rudolph, born April 12, 1911.

ANTON RASMUSSEN (1900) is a farmer and land owner of Coon Creek township. He is a native of Denmark and was born January 20, 1868, a son of Peter

and Singer Christenson. He received his schooling in the land of his birth and grew to manhood there.

When nineteen years of age our subject immigrated to the United States and for nine years resided in Chicago. There he worked on the railroad, drove a coal wagon and operated a dairy. He then went to Lincoln county, Minnesota, where he purchased a quarter section of land, which he operated two years. Then he returned to Chicago, where he conducted a dairy one year more. He came to Lyon county in 1900 and upon his arrival purchased the northwest quarter of section 30, Coon Creek township, upon which he still resides. Besides farming, Mr. Rasmussen raises a great deal of stock. He is a member of the Danish Lutheran church and the Danish Brotherhood of America lodge. He has stock in a farmers' co-operative lumber yard and creamery at Tyler.

On September 19, 1889, at Chicago, Illinois, the subject of this review was married to Annie Meyer, a native of Germany and a daughter of Nels and Annie Meyer. To Mr. and Mrs. Rasmussen have been born three children, Peter, Lizzie and Degma.

GEORGE A. MULLEN (1911) is the junior member of the firm styled the Mullen Land Company of Marshall. He is a native of Iowa and was born at Fort Dodge April 24, 1887, where he resided until twelve years of age. His parents are M. A. Mullen and Mildred (Babbit) Mullen, natives of Watertown, Wisconsin. After their marriage in 1883 they moved to Fort Dodge, Iowa, where they resided until 1892. Then they moved to Gilmore, Iowa, lived there until 1899, and then moved to Palo Alto county, Iowa. They lived in the latter place until 1905, when they moved to Pipestone, where they now reside. They are the parents of the following children: Anna, Adelaide, Joseph, Marie and Bernice, of Pipestone; George A., of this sketch; James of Weyburn, Saskatchewan, Canada.

When twelve years of age George accompanied his parents to Palo Alto county to reside. He attended school there and grew to manhood. He spent four years

as collector for the Raleigh Medicine Company, with headquarters at Madison and Egan, South Dakota. For a year he was disciplinarian at the Pipestone Indian School, after which he was district manager for the Mutual Life Insurance Company of New York at Pipestone. In September, 1911, he moved to Marshall and launched the Mullen Land Company, which is comprised of himself and his father, M. A. Mullen. They deal in real estate and are a strictly reliable firm. They have some of the best farms in the county on their list. They also have listed many acres in other parts of the state, having offices at Morris and Pipestone, Minnesota, and Grand Forks, North Dakota.

HENRY L. TRAEN (1884) is a farmer and land owner of Eidsvold township. He was born in Belgium August 25, 1871, and came to America and to Lyon county with his parents in 1884. His education was begun in the old country and finished in Lyon county.

Henry attended school until eighteen years old and thereafter until 1904 he worked on his father's farm. Louis Traen, the father, still lives in Eidsvold township; the mother, Rose Traen, died in 1910. Our subject was married in 1904 and began farming for himself at that time on the place he now owns. The northeast quarter of section 19 became his property in the spring of 1912. Mr. Traen has a well-improved place and engages in stock raising to some extent.

Mr. Traen was married in Taunton in 1904 to Kate Fear. She was born in Germany September 25, 1885, and is a daughter of Antone and Mary (Szazynski) Fear. Her parents reside in Lincoln county. Mr. and Mrs. Traen have three children: Louis, born January 26, 1905; Paul, born May 21, 1907; and Anton, born April 26, 1911. The family are members of the Catholic church and Mr. Traen has been road overseer two years.

DONALD H. RULIFFSON (1895), bookkeeper of the Farmers & Merchants National Bank of Minneota, was born March 18, 1893, in Lincoln county, Minnesota.

His parents, Charles P. and Alice M. (Sloan) Ruliffson, were early settlers of Lincoln county and located in Lyons township, Lyon county, in 1895, where they now own one of the largest farms in the vicinity.

Donald attended country school in Lyons township and the village school in Russell, later attending high school for a time in Ortonville and spending one year in the Marshall High School. He discontinued his high school course in June, 1910, and worked on the home farm that summer, and in September he took a position with the local bank as bookkeeper.

Mr. Ruliffson is a member of the Presbyterian church of Russell. He made many friends throughout the county during his school days at Marshall and Russell and is popular among the young people of Minneota.

ANDREW HOOK (1901) is a farmer of Monroe township, being the proprietor of 160 acres on the northwest quarter of section 15. Mr. Hook raises stock in addition to his general farming.

Mayville, Wisconsin, is the birthplace of Andrew Hook, November 10, 1869, being the date of his birth. His father, Eugene Hook, died December 12, 1907, and his mother, Madeline (Stromyer) Hook, lives in Tracy. When our subject was a child the family moved to Grundy Center, Iowa, where they made their home until 1901. Andrew was brought up on the farm and educated in the country schools, and later farmed in Iowa.

It was in 1901 that Andrew Hook came to Lyon county and bought his present farm, where he has since lived. He was married February 21, 1895, to Minnie Miller, at Finchford, Iowa. Mrs. Hook is a native of Galena, Illinois. To this union have been born three children, as follows: Veronica, born December 12, 1895; Nettie, born June 4, 1898; and Harold, born October 24, 1902.

WALTER P. WOHLHETER (1911), manager of the farmers' elevator at Marshall, was born in Chamberlain, South Dakota, December 4, 1886. He is the son of C. L. and Florence (Downie) Wohlheter, natives of Iowa and residents of White, South Dakota.

The mother of our subject is a daughter of E. B. Dowie, one of the early settlers of Marshall. There is one other child in the family, Verne G.

When Walter was six years of age the family moved from Chamberlain to White, Brookings county, South Dakota, and there he grew to young manhood. After securing a high school education, he attended the State College at Brookings two terms and completed his education in the Mankato Commercial College. He then entered the grain business, being manager of the E. A. Brown elevator and that of the farmers' company at White prior to his removal to Marshall on July 17, 1911. Since that date he has had charge of the Marshall elevator.

Mr. Wohlheter was married at White, South Dakota, June 3, 1908, to Jessie Denhart. She was born in Pipestone county and is a daughter of W. B. Denhart, an early settler of that county. Mr. and Mrs. Wohlheter have two children, Phyllis and Clementine. Our subject is a member of the Masonic and Woodmen lodges.

GEORGE DANDURAND (1887), Sodus township farmer, is a native of Indiana and was born at Milford February 28, 1875. His parents are Marcle and Mary (Bourgret) Dandurand, natives of Canada. They settled in Indiana in an early day.

In 1887 George accompanied his parents to Lyon county, the father renting a half section of land in Lynd township. They resided there three years and then moved to Lake Marshall township, where they farmed four years. In 1895 our subject was married and took up farming for himself. He farmed a part of the time in Lake Marshall township and part of the time in Sodus township. He also spent one year in Canada. In 1905 he purchased the northwest quarter of section 8, Sodus township, which he later sold, and he now rents the same. Mr. Dandurand is a member of the Catholic church and the Modern Woodmen lodge.

On July 25, 1895, at Marshall, occurred the marriage of Jennie Melencon to Mr. Dandurand. She was born in Milford, Indiana, on July 3, 1873, and is a daughter of Eugene and Salina (Shopin) Melencon, natives of Canada. Mr. and Mrs. Dandurand are the parents of the following five children: Bes-

sie M., born September 25, 1896; Frances Lucy, born December 25, 1899; Hurby E., born December 1, 1901; Bernice D., born October 23, 1903; Roland O., born May 24, 1908.

FRED E. CHILD (1909) is editor and publisher of the Russell Anchor and has spent his entire life in the printing and newspaper business. He was born in Nevada, Story county, Iowa, December 22, 1877. After securing an education he learned his trade in the local newspaper offices, the Nevada Representative and the Nevada Journal.

Thereafter, before he became a resident of Lyon county, Mr. Child worked on many different papers in Iowa and Minnesota. He was employed for a year on the Algona, Iowa, Upper Des Moines and for a time on the successor of that journal, the Upper Des Moines-Republican. Mr. Child worked two years on the Reveille at Redwood Falls and one year on the Times-Messenger at Madelia and then for two years had charge of the Wabasso Standard. He next had charge of the mechanical department of the Herald at Wabasha for more than a year, and in March, 1909, he became the owner of the Russell Anchor. Mr. Child has greatly improved the paper and made a success of the venture. He is a member of the M. W. A. lodge and was chief officer of the local order in 1910.

Mr. Child was married at Redwood Falls September 18, 1904, to Lutie Lenore Robinson, a native of Redwood county and the daughter of Lafayette Robinson, one of the early day treasurers of that county. Mr. and Mrs. Child have three children: Doris Marie, Donald William and Fay George.

Fred Child is the youngest child of a family of seven children, the others being Hattie Stevens, of Des Moines, Iowa; Willie, of Ames, Iowa; George, of St. James, Minnesota; Harry, of Boone, Iowa; Bert B., of Nevada, Iowa; and Mollie Glasco, of Des Moines, Iowa.

The parents of these children were George and Lavina (Hall) Child. The former was born in Bath, New Hampshire, settled in Illinois when fourteen years of age, and at Nevada, Iowa, in an early day and acquired land there. He served as a member of Company K, Thirty-second Iowa Infantry, as

first and second lieutenant and quartermaster. He was sheriff of Story county eight years and later was in the livery business. He died in 1902 and his wife in 1880.

FRANK HAMILTON (1902) has been farming in Monroe township since 1908 and rents the north half of the northeast quarter of section 8.

The subject of this sketch was born in Johnson county, Iowa, September 3, 1868. His parents, A. J. and Harriett (Cleghorn) Hamilton, were natives of Indiana but settled in Iowa in an early day. When Frank was very young the family moved to Pocahontas county, and there he received his schooling and grew to manhood.

At the age of twenty-one years young Hamilton started out in life for himself, renting land in Iowa and farming thirteen years. In 1902 he moved to Lyon county and located in Balaton, soon afterward renting land near the village and farming the place until 1908. During that year he changed his residence to Monroe township and has since been on his present farm.

Mr. Hamilton was married in Pocahontas county, Iowa, April 1, 1890, to Emma Garton. They have four children, Herbert L., Ethel, Dora E. and Harry. Mrs. Hamilton is a native of Illinois and is a daughter of J. P. and Elizabeth Moulton Garton. She was born May 28, 1871.

Frank Hamilton's fraternal associations are with the Modern Woodmen and A. O. U. W. lodges.

DONALD R. MIHILLS (1909) is part owner and manager of section 16, and 240 acres on section 15, Stanley township, which he owns in partnership with his father. He is a native of Wisconsin and was born in Fond du Lac October 20, 1887, a son of G. U. and Antonette C. (Carpenter) Mihills, the former a native of New York and the latter of Wisconsin. The parents reside at Fond du Lac, where the father is engaged in the lumber business and also owns a section of land. He engages extensively in breeding Percheron horses, established the county fair there, and has been quite prominent in the development of his part of the country. They were the parents of two children:

Genevieve, who is a graduate nurse of St. Luke's Hospital, at Chicago; and Donald R., of this sketch.

Donald attended the schools in the city of his birth and later attended Northwestern Military Academy and the University of Wisconsin. He was graduated from the former in 1904 and the latter in 1909. The latter year is the date of the arrival of our subject to Lyon county. He took charge of the above mentioned farm, which had been purchased by his father in 1887, in connection with several hundred acres more, which have been sold.

Our subject is a member of the Elks and Masonic lodges and is treasurer of Stanley township. His great grandfather, Colonel Calvert Pier, was the first settler of Fond du Lac.

FREDERICK W. E. MALZAHN (1896) is the efficient tailor in the city of Marshall. He was born in Germany December 1, 1857, and when eighteen years of age came to the United States and located in Le Sueur, Minnesota. He is a son of Frederick William and Henrietta (Schwandt) Malzahn, natives of Germany. Both parents are deceased. They were the parents of two children: Frederick W. E., of this sketch, and Augusta (Mrs. William Ladwig), of Clifton township.

Our subject served his apprenticeship as a tailor at Le Sueur, where he resided five years, and then went to Faribault, where he resided three months. He later went to St. Paul and worked at his trade till 1891, and then to St. Cloud, where he worked at his trade one season. The next few years were spent at his trade in Minneapolis, Chicago and Columbus.

In 1896 Mr. Malzahn came to Lyon county and located in Marshall, where he worked as tailor two years for Ed. Cartier. He then engaged in business for himself, which he has since continued.

JAMES M. HANSON (1903), Coon Creek township farmer, was born in Denmark September 15, 1876, a son of Hans and Annie (Christensen) Christopherson. James received his schooling in the land of his nativity, where he lived until eighteen years of age, when he immigrated to America.

He located at Alden, Freeborn county, Minnesota, and worked at farm labor there until 1903, the year of his arrival to Lyon county.

Mr. Hanson purchased 160 acres on section 17, Lyons township, which he held until the fall of 1911, when he sold and bought land on section 21, Coon Creek township, where he now lives. He is a member of the Danish Lutheran church and was treasurer of school district No. 69 one year.

Mr. Hanson is a man of family. He was married in Lyons township March 10, 1905, to Damie Stiefel, a native of Lyons township and a daughter of David and Jane (Jones) Stiefel, of Russell. Mr. and Mrs. Hanson are the parents of two children, Olga and Margrette.

E. W. ANDERSON, D. C. (1911), Doctor of Chiropractic, is a recent addition to Tracy, having moved there from Canby in November, 1911. Dr. Anderson has offices on the second floor of the W. J. Coles Building on Third Street and has been achieving success in his profession during his short residence there.

Burt county, Nebraska, is the birthplace of our subject, who first saw the light of day on June 16, 1886. His boyhood was spent for the most part in Custer and Dawson counties, Nebraska, and during much of his early life he was in the saddle on the plains of Nebraska, tending cattle and ranching. The new profession of chiropractic adjustments claimed his interest, and determining to study the science the young man, then in his early twenties, enrolled in the Palmer School of Chiropractics in Davenport, Iowa, in 1908. Graduating in November, 1910, the doctor first located in Canby, where he remained about a year before he moved to Tracy. Dr. Anderson is a member of the I. O. O. F. lodge.

The parents of our subject were A. C. and Lizzie (Stenman) Anderson, both natives of Stockholm, Sweden. They came to this country about fifty years ago. The father is dead; the mother lives in Gothenburg, Dawson county, Nebraska. Ernest W. of this sketch has the following brothers and sister living: Julius and Oscar, of Big Springs, Nebraska; Jesse, of Gothenburg, Nebraska; and Nena, of Gothenburg, Nebraska.

JOHN E. BERG (1892), farmer of Westerheim township, was born in Norway December 19, 1869. His mother died in the old country when he was five years old and his father, Erick Haug, died in Rock county, Minnesota, in 1883, soon after his arrival to the New World.

When John Berg was eleven years of age he came to America and joined his father in Rock county. The father had come the year before and taken a homestead in Rose Dell township, of that county. After his father's death John was obliged to make his own way in the world, although he was but a boy in his early teens. Until eighteen years of age he worked on farms in Rock county, and then he learned the miller's trade, working three and one-half years in the mill at Luverne.

At Slayton Mr. Berg resided a year, working in the mill and at carpenter work. The next nine months were passed working in a mill at Winnebago City, and then he located in Minnesota and was employed in the mill two years. He worked at his trade in Lamberton a short time and in Madison two years. In 1896 Mr. Berg gave up that work and turned farmer. At that time he bought the north half of the northeast quarter of section 6, Westerheim township, and engaged in farming. He has resided on that farm since, with the exception of five years spent in Eidsvold township, where he bought a farm which he later sold. Mr. Berg farms 480 acres of land, owning besides his Lyon county farm 400 acres in Burton and Swede Prairie townships, Yellow Medicine county.

Mr. Berg was married at Minneota August 15, 1894, to Helen Hellickson, a native of Wisconsin and a daughter of Andrew Hellickson. They have two daughters, Jane Esther and Hazel Iverine. Mr. Berg is a member of the Odd Fellows and Woodmen orders.

In Mr. Berg's father's family are four children, the others being Edward, of Tacoma, Washington; Martha and Ingeborg, both of Norway.

GEORGE H. CHAMBERLAIN (1894), of Marshall, is a son of A. J. Chamberlain, a native of New York and a Marshall gro-

ceryman, and Lillis (Fettiplace) Chamberlain, a native of Wisconsin.

He is a native Minnesotan, having been born at Geneva, Freeborn county, July 11, 1884. He came to Marshall with his parents in 1894 and was educated in the Marshall High School. For three years he was engaged in the grocery business with his father. He then spent one year in Watertown, South Dakota, where he was in the mercantile business. Thereafter he learned the printer's trade and for about three years conducted a job printing establishment in Marshall.

In January, 1911, Mr. Chamberlain again engaged in the grocery business with his father. He will shortly become engaged as advertising solicitor and ad-writer. He is a member of the Elks lodge at Watertown, of the Commandery at Marshall, and of the Shrine at Minneapolis.

The marriage of Mr. Chamberlain to Blanche L. Davis occurred in Richland, Oswego county, New York, June 27, 1907. She is a native of the county in which she was married and spent her high school days with an aunt in Marshall. Two children have been born to this union, Mary Louise, born July 27, 1910, and Horace Franklin, born December 26, 1911.

JOHN HULBURT (1900) is a farmer and stock raiser residing in Lake Marshall township. He was born in Green county, Wisconsin, September 17, 1874, and is a son of John and Lorinda (Smiley) Hulburt, natives of Wisconsin. John remained under the parental roof until he reached his majority and then farmed rented land in Green county until 1900.

In the year last mentioned our subject came to Lyon county and purchased the north half of section 34, Lake Marshall township, and has resided there since. He has a nicely improved farm. He deals quite extensively in stock, feeding and shipping a great number each year.

Sarah Kennedy became the wife of Mr. Hulburt at Madison, Wisconsin, October 2, 1895. She is a daughter of Michael and Delia (Clary) Kennedy, the former a native of New York and the latter of Ireland. Mr. and Mrs. Kennedy reside at Dayton, Wisconsin. To Mr. and Mrs. Hulburt have

been born the following named four children: William B., born January 12, 1897; Ellin L., born December 17, 1898; Maud I., born September 4, 1903; Mary, born January 21, 1905.

MATHEW J. MOORSE (1898). Prominent among the rising young business men of Minneota is the gentleman whose name heads this review. Although a young man he holds the responsible position of assistant cashier of the First National Bank of Minneota.

Mr. Moorse is a native of Belgium and was born February 6, 1886. He came to America with his parents in 1898 and until he was twenty years of age lived with them on the farm in Nordland township. He was educated in the Marshall High School and in the Normal School at Mankato and took up teaching as a profession. He taught in country schools two years and two years was principal of the Taunton school. In July, 1910, Mr. Moorse entered the First National Bank as bookkeeper and in January, 1911, he was made assistant cashier. Our subject is a member of the Catholic church and of the Knights of Columbus and Modern Woodmen lodges.

Our subject was married at Ghent October 4, 1911, to Bertha DeCock, a native of Ghent and a daughter of Julius DeCock.

Peter and Christine (Jacobs) Moorse, our subject's parents, settled in Nordland township in 1898, bought land on section 19, farmed it five years and then bought 600 acres in Lincoln county, where they now reside. There are seven children in the family as follows: Nellie, John, Mathew J., Isabelle, Harry, Lizzie and Sophia.

WILLIAM SEILER (1906) is a farmer of Lynd township who has resided in Lyon county for the past six years. He is a native of Germany and was born at Baden January 13, 1860, a son of Alex and Theresa Seiler. The former died in 1895 and the latter in 1893.

The subject of this review received his early education in Germany, where he attended school until fourteen years of age. He then worked in the breweries until

twenty years of age, at which time he started farming, which occupation he followed in Germany until twenty-four years of age. In 1884 Mr. Seiler immigrated to America, located at Utica, New York, where he worked in a dairy and as a farm hand for six years, and then went to Morgan county, Tennessee, where he worked in a dairy two years. From that southern state he went to Calhoun county, Iowa, where he worked as a farm hand three years.

In 1905 Mr. Seiler purchased eighty acres of land in Pocahontas county, Iowa, which he operated until 1905. The next year he purchased the northeast quarter of section 24, Lynd township, which he has broken up and improved. He has a fine farm with good improvements. Besides farming, he raises some stock, including Duroc-Jersey hogs and Shorthorn cattle. He is a member of the German Evangelical church and was trustee in that church in Calhoun county for eight years.

In 1895 Mr. Seiler was married to Selma Widauer, a daughter of August and Teklah Widauer, of LeMars, Iowa. Mrs. Seiler is a native of Germany and was born January 20, 1871, coming to America with her parents when ten years of age. Mr. and Mrs. Seiler are the parents of the following ten children: Freida, born February 4, 1896; William, born April 15, 1897; Rosa, born July 7, 1898; Louis, born August 22, 1899; Minnie, born October 4, 1900; Carl, born February 18, 1902; Walter, born December 21, 1904; Emma, born March 8, 1906; Herman, born September 29, 1908; Clara, born May 7, 1910.

WILLIAM E. PHILLIPS (1897) engages in painting and paperhanging in Marshall. He was born in Hennepin county, Minnesota, on November 11, 1852, and is a son of Corlis and Mercella (Ailsworth) Phillips, natives of Providence, Rhode Island. They were the parents of five children, three of whom are living, as follows: Abbie (Mrs. N. W. Wood), of Excelsior, Minnesota; Luella (Mrs. E. W. Walworth), deceased; William, of this sketch; Edward, of Glencoe; Eugene N., a state rural school commissioner, of St. Paul.

Our subject resided in the county of his nativity until thirteen years of age, when

he moved to Shakopee, Minnesota. There he attended school and learned the painter's, paperhanger's and decorator's trades. Later he returned to Hennepin county and followed his trade until 1893. Thereafter he lived in Minneapolis a year and in Dawson two years.

In 1897 Mr. Phillips came to Lyon county and located at Marshall, where he has since followed his trade. He is a member of the Yeomen and Modern Woodmen lodges and owns a fine residence in Marshall. He is better known among his friends as "Dad." Mr. Phillips is a great sportsman and a firm believer in out-door life, being one of the crack shots of the county and having won many medals for his marksmanship in the Marshall Gun Club, of which he is an honored member.

Mr. Phillips was married at Shakopee in March, 1865, to May Schooley, a native of Kentucky. They are the parents of one child, Alberta (Mrs. Claud Roebuck), of Marshall.

LARS OSCAR FURGESON (1886), a farmer of Eidsvold township, was born in Lyon county and has spent his entire life here. Island Lake township is his native precinct, and the date of his birth was February 1, 1886.

Ole and Helen (Grasdalen) Furgeson, the parents of our subject, were early settlers and homesteaders of Island Lake township. The father continued to reside on the old homestead until his death on June 19, 1908; the mother still makes her home there with two sons and a daughter. There were twelve children in the family, as follows: Rudolph, of Freeborn county, Minnesota; Leneda, Dicka and Otto, who are deceased; Rachael, Gisley, Anna and Orvin, who reside at home; Alma (Mrs. Julian Burg) and William, of Minneapolis; Martin, of Freeborn county; and Lars Oscar, of Eidsvold.

Lars Oscar Furgeson attended the school of Island Lake township until seventeen years old and then until his marriage in the spring of 1908 he worked at home and for neighboring farmers. After his marriage he farmed two seasons in Coon Creek township and two seasons in Island Lake township. In the fall of 1911 he moved to

his present location in Eidsvold, farming the northeast quarter and the north half of the southwest quarter of section 33.

The marriage of Mr. Furgeson to Ruby Wahlstrom occurred in Island Lake township February 26, 1908. Mrs. Furgeson was born in Rockford, Illinois, February 11, 1890, and she is a daughter of Emel and Selma (Johnson) Wahlstrom. The family came to Lyon county in March, 1895, and now live in Nordland township. Two children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Furgeson: Bernice, born March 4, 1909, and Stanley, born July 17, 1911. The family are members of the Norwegian Lutheran church of Minneota.

DR. J. B. ROBERTSON (1892) is a physician and surgeon of Cottonwood. He is also county coroner, a position he has held the past ten years. He was the first licensed physician to settle in the village of Cottonwood.

The subject of this review was born in Freeborn county, Minnesota, December 4, 1866. The parents were Peter and Helen (Robertson) Robertson, the former a native of Glasgow and the latter of Edinburgh, Scotland. Soon after their marriage they came to the United States and settled in Wisconsin, in 1850. The father and a brother John conducted a store in Cook county, Wisconsin. In 1864 Peter Robertson came to Minnesota and located in Freeborn county, where he soon afterward died. The mother died when the subject of this sketch was only six years of age.

Left without parents at an early age, our subject and his brothers began life's struggle. He grew to manhood in Freeborn county and in Mitchell, Iowa, where he worked at various occupations and attended school. He also attended school three years at Willmar and taught in Freeborn and Kandiyohi counties several years. He then spent two years in Day county, South Dakota, where he pre-empted a claim and taught school.

J. B. Robertson attended the Medical Department of the State University and was graduated from Rush Medical College in April, 1892. He spent several months practising at Waseca, Minnesota, and in

September, 1892, located at Cottonwood, where he has since practised his profession. Dr. Robertson was president of the Cottonwood Village Council two terms and was a member of the Board of Education nine years. He has been county coroner the past ten years and is chairman of the Board of Health. He is a director and stockholder of the First National Bank of Cottonwood and is president and director of the North Star Implement Company. Dr. Robertson holds membership in the M. W. A., A. O. U. W. and A. F. and A. M. lodges.

Dr. Robertson was married at Austin, Minnesota, April 7, 1893, to Rose B. Marsh, who was born near Waupun, Wisconsin. She died November 20, 1897. To this union were born two children, Exine and Lew. Dr. Robertson was married a second time at Rochester on January 1, 1898, to Olga L. Paulson, a native of Chicago. Her father, Ole Paulson, conducted a hardware store in Chicago, which was burned in the big fire of 1871. He then moved to Dakota and later to Yellow Medicine county, Minnesota, where he died. To Dr. and Mrs. Robertson have been born two children, Murl and Gwen.

Our subject has the following brothers and sisters: David, a lawyer of Conde, South Dakota; Dr. E. P., president of Wesley College of Grand Forks, North Dakota; William, who was professor and superintendent of the Crookston, Minnesota, Agricultural College at the time of his death in January, 1910; and Helen (Mrs. H. P. McConnell), of Brush, Colorado. He also has a half-brother, Thomas G. Bonnallie, the mayor of Tracy; and a half-sister, Lora (Mrs. J. A. McNiven), of Marshall.

JOSEPH V. MATHEWS (1907), attorney at law of Cottonwood, is a native of Southwestern Minnesota, having been born on his father's homestead on section 8, Shetek township, Murray county, on March 30, 1879. He grew to young manhood on the farm and in 1902 was graduated from the Tracy High School. He then took a one year's preparatory course in Macalester College, after which he matriculated in



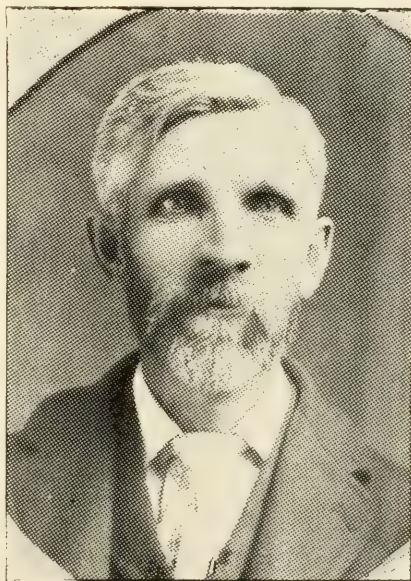
JOSEPH V. MATHEWS  
A Practising Attorney of Cottonwood.



DR. J. B. ROBERTSON  
Coroner of Lyon County and a Physician of  
Cottonwood.



VICTOR J. LA VOY  
Proprietor of a Marshall Saloon.



PETER H. BLY  
Manager of the Ross Lumber Com-  
pany's Yard at Cottonwood.



the St. Paul College of Law, from which he was graduated in June, 1906.

Mr. Mathews was admitted to the bar on June 22, 1906, and was admitted to practise before the United States district and circuit courts on November 4, 1910. After his admission to the bar Mr. Mathews practised seven months with Judge L. S. Nelson, of Slayton, and on March 12, 1907, became a resident of Cottonwood, where he has since practised his profession, with offices on the second floor of the Grieve & Laingen Building. Mr. Mathews has been very successful in the law. He is a self-made man and has had to rely almost wholly on his own exertions, having worked his way through college. Mr. Mathews takes a leading part in the affairs of his community. He is secretary of the Cottonwood Commercial Club and was village attorney in 1906 and 1907. He is a member of the Masonic and Woodmen orders.

The parents of our subject, J. W. and Alice (Robins) Mathews, are pioneers of Southwestern Minnesota. The father is a native of New York State, the mother of Rochester, Minnesota. They settled in Murray county in 1870 and still reside upon the farm which they took as a homestead. They have five sons and two daughters, as follows: Clara J. (Mrs. P. M. Hart), of Hillyard, Washington; Joseph V., of this review; John E., of Murray county; James A., of Murray county; Arthur R., Murian and Mildred M.

PETER H. BLY (1903) has for eight years and more been manager of the H. W. Ross Lumber Company's yard at Cottonwood. The company handles lumber, coal and all kinds of building material. Mr. Bly is the owner of a fine residence and is active in the town's affairs. He is clerk of the Cottonwood school board, a position which he also held while a citizen of Hills, Minnesota, prior to moving to Cottonwood. He served on the Village Council two years and was its president one year. Mr. Bly is a member and one of the trustees of the English Lutheran church.

Mr. Bly was born in Lee county, Illinois, June 3, 1860. His parents, Helge P. and Julia (Sexe) Bly, are both deceased.

Our subject received his early education in his native state and when eighteen years old entered Northwestern College at Naperville, Illinois, remaining one year. The next two years Peter taught district school near his home, and in 1882 he accepted a position as manager of the Farmers Lumber & Grain Company's yard at Lee, Illinois, where he remained seven years. In 1889 our subject moved to Bruce, Minnesota, was manager of the A. T. Sexe lumber and grain business one year, and then went to Hills, Minnesota, and worked for the same man three years. In 1893 the business was sold to the Tuthill Lumber Company, and Mr. Bly continued as manager ten years, when he took charge of the Cottonwood yard for H. W. Ross Lumber Company.

Our subject married Inga Severson at Lee, Illinois, June 27, 1882. His wife was born September 16, 1864, and is a native of Kendall county, Illinois. The Blys are the parents of the following children: Julia (Mrs. C. E. Colby), of Russell; John P., of Estelline, South Dakota; Martha (Mrs. Edward Risty), of Brooklyn, New York; Helge, a student at the University of Minnesota; Helen, a clerk in Larson's store, Cottonwood; James, Pearl, Gertrude, Eva, students in the Cottonwood schools.

VICTOR J. LaVOY (1895), proprietor of a saloon in Marshall, was born in Chicago August 28, 1879. His parents, George and Louise (Boudreau) LaVoy, were born in Canada but located in Chicago when children. The mother lives in Chicago; the father died in Lyon county in September, 1895. Nine children of the family are living, as follows: Rame, Amma, Louise, Lucy, Henry, Josie, John, George and Victor.

Victor made his home with the family in Chicago until a young man and was educated there. In March, 1895, he accompanied the family to Lyon county and made his home on the farm in Fairview township. A few months after the arrival of the family the father died, and the management of the farm then devolved on our subject and his brother, George. They engaged in farming until 1904. Since that time Victor has lived in Marshall. For a

number of years he was employed as a bartender and since December, 1910, has been engaged in business for himself.

Mr. LaVoy was married in Marshall October 8, 1909, to Calla Snapp, who was born in Kentucky. They have one child, William H. LaVoy. Jacob and Sarah (Mann) Snapp, the parents of Mrs. LaVoy, were born and married in Nicholas county, Kentucky. The former served in the Kentucky Home Guards during the Civil War. The Snapp family moved to Marshall in 1885 and Mr. Snapp has since lived in that city, spending part of his time with his children in Kentucky. Mrs. Snapp died in Marshall July 14, 1908, at the age of seventy-two years. Mr. Snapp is now eighty-five years of age.

JOHN W. WELSH (1908) is a farmer residing in Lake Marshall township. He is a native of Massachusetts and was born February 21, 1861, a son of Thomas and Elizabeth (Kingsley) Welsh, the former a native of Ireland and the latter of Massachusetts. When our subject was eleven years of age, the family moved to Lyon county, Iowa, where our subject received his schooling and grew to manhood.

When eighteen years of age, the subject of this review started out for himself, engaging in various occupations. In 1908 he came to Lyon county and rented a quarter section of land on section 29, Lake Marshall township, where he still resides. Mr. Welsh is a member of the Catholic church.

The subject of this review was married at Marshall in September, 1892, to Ellen A. Meehan, a native of Wisconsin. Mrs. Welsh was born December 13, 1861, and is a daughter of Merick and Charlotte (Harding) Meehan. Mr. and Mrs. Welsh are the parents of the following named three children: Gertrude E., born November 15, 1893; Francis T., born October 7, 1900; Ellend M., born April 4, 1903.

OSCAR A. HOLLAND (1907), a Monroe township farmer, is a native of Cottonwood county, Minnesota, where he was born October 30, 1879. His parents, Martin and Anna (Albertson) Holland, were

born in Norway and came to America in an early day, the father taking a homestead in Cottonwood county.

Until twenty-two years of age Oscar lived on his father's farm in Cottonwood county. There he attended the country schools, and when his education was finished he helped with the work on the home place. When he left the farm his first employment was in W. W. Rounds' hardware store at Conde, South Dakota, where he remained five years. In 1907 Mr. Holland moved to Tracy, where he worked two years, first in the employ of D. H. Evans and later for E. F. Klocow. Mr. Holland then rented land in Monroe township and commenced farming; in 1911 he rented his present place, the southwest quarter of section 16. He is making the raising of Hereford cattle a specialty and has a fine lot of White Leghorn chickens.

Mr. Holland was married June 5, 1907, to Martina Bjorn, the wedding taking place at Lamberton, Minnesota. To this union three children have been born: Arnold, born May 12, 1908; Hazel, born March 8, 1910; and Orval, born October 27, 1911. Mrs. Holland was born at Clinton, Iowa, December 5, 1882, and is a daughter of J. F. and Gertrude (Nelson) Bjorn, natives of Denmark.

The Hollands are members of the Norwegian Lutheran church. Mr. Holland belongs to the Tracy Farmers Club and the Southern Minnesota Development League, and his fraternal associations are with the Modern Woodmen lodge. He is chairman of the board of school district No. 33.

WILLIAM C. BAMFORD (1885) is the senior member of the firm of Bamford Brothers, proprietors of the City Livery Barn of Marshall. He is a native of the county and was born on his father's farm in Lake Marshall township August 5, 1885. His parents, William E. and Catherine Bamford, natives of Wisconsin and Maryland, are both deceased.

Our subject was educated in the district schools and worked on the farm until 1911. On February 27 of that year he and his brother, C. Fred Bamford, bought the City Livery Barn from John Wilson and have since conducted the business.

There are four children in the Bamford family, as follows: George, who farms in Lake Marshall township; William C., Charles F. and Nell (Mrs. Daniel H. Minnick), of North Dakota.

BERNT E. LUND (1898) came to America from his native Norway in 1891, but has been a resident in Lucas township only about three years. He first saw the light of day on June 23, 1873, in the county of Trondhjem, Norway. His mother, Meta (Sunde) Lund, is still living in Norway; his father, Einar Lund, died some years ago. Bernt received his education in Norway, and as was usual for the farmer boy of that country his schooling was finished when he was fifteen years of age. After leaving school the lad worked out at farm labor for about one year and a half and then decided to come to America.

In the summer of 1891 young Lund landed in the United States, and his first home in the new country was in Jackson county, Minnesota, where he worked at farm labor for about seven years. In 1898 he came to Lyon county and found work with a farmer near Cottonwood the following two years and a half. He later worked in and around Cottonwood until 1903 and has since then been engaged in farming for himself on rented land in Lyon and Yellow Medicine counties. For the past three years he has been conducting the quarter section on 23, Lucas township. He is doing well and is successfully engaging in stock raising.

Our subject's marriage to Bessie Granmo occurred in October, 1898. She is a native of Norway and was born March 5, 1872. One child has been born to this union, Alfred, born October 26, 1899. Mr. and Mrs. Lund belong to the Norwegian Lutheran church of Cottonwood.

FRED H. CASE (1882) has spent his entire life in Marshall, having been born in that city March 17, 1882. He was graduated from the Marshall High School and then learned the printer's trade in his father's office, the Lyon County Reporter. His father gave him a half interest in the paper, having previously given a half interest to another son, Frank W. Case.

Our subject sold his interest in the paper to his brother in 1905 and during the next three years engaged in the hardware business in Marshall. He sold out at the end of that time and has since been connected with the Reporter.

Mr. Case was married January 19, 1906, to Minnie Johnson. She was born at Tracy and is the daughter of Thomas Johnson, now in the real estate business at Marshall.

C. F. Case, the father of our subject, is one of the early settlers of Lyon county and a pioneer journalist. Our subject's mother is Fannie (Waller) Case. There are three children in the family, Frank W., Fred H. and Dorothy A.

ELBRIDGE GIFFORD (1890), a successful farmer of Rock Lake township, rents the southeast quarter of section 14 and also farms land on section 11 in the same township.

Mr. Gifford was born in Custer township April 23, 1890, and is a son of George and Ruth (Hughes) Gifford, pioneer residents of Lyon county. In the early days they moved to the county and have lived here ever since, witnessing the growth of the county and experiencing all the trials and hardships of the early settlers.

Elbridge received his education in Balaton, where he attended school until the age of eighteen years. He then went into business, conducting a livery and feed barn in the village about a year and a half. Farm labor occupied his time for the period of one year after he disposed of the livery business, and in November, 1911, Mr. Gifford rented the farm which he has since conducted.

Our subject was married November 8, 1911, at Balaton. His wife, formerly Lucy Anderson, is a native of Lyon county. She was born May 20, 1890, and is a daughter of Charles and Mary Anderson, of Rock Lake township.

WILLIAM MURPHY (1903) is the owner of the Riverside Hotel at Russell and an employe of R. E. Benson, the implement dealer. He has been a resident of Lyon county only nine years, but for many years he lived just over the line in Redwood county.

He is a son of the late John and Elizabeth Murphy. They were born in Ireland and came to America when children. They settled in Wabasha county, Minnesota, in the early sixties and in Redwood county in 1881. The father died there and the mother in Cass county. Besides our subject there are two other children in the family, Tom, of Russell, and Martha O'Connell, of Mitchell, South Dakota.

William Murphy was born in Wabasha county, Minnesota, March 17, 1872. He attended the schools of Lake City and in 1881 accompanied his parents to Redwood county. The father homesteaded in Westline township, and on that farm our subject lived until he was twenty-one years old. Then he engaged in farming on his own account for a number of years. In 1903 Mr. Murphy located in Russell and bought the Riverside Hotel. After leasing the hotel to his father-in-law two years, Mr. Murphy took charge and was the landlord two years. Since that time the hotel has been conducted by Tom Murphy. For two years our subject worked for the Farmers Elevator Company and then was with the International Harvester Company until taking his present employment in the implement house. Mr. Murphy was a member of the Village Council in 1909.

Mary Jones became the wife of William Murphy at Tracy on June 8, 1897. She was born in Danville, Illinois, and is the daughter of Ex-Senator J. N. Jones, of Redwood county, now assistant state grain weigher at St. Paul. Mr. and Mrs. Murphy have three children: John, Elsie and Cleo.

RASMUS N. ANDERSON (1887), Eidsvold township farmer, has spent his entire life in Lyon county. He is a son of Nels and Mary Anderson, early settlers and still residents of Eidsvold township. He is one of a family of five children, the others being John, Carl, Edwin and Sophia.

Rasmus was born on his father's Eidsvold township farm March 7, 1887. He attended the district school and St. Olaf College at Northfield, being graduated from the academy in 1907. Two years after his graduation Rasmus moved on one of his father's farms, the east half of the north-east quarter of section 16, Eidsvold, and has since been engaged in its cultivation.

On December 22, 1909, Mr. Anderson was married to Nellie Kvanbeck. She is also a native of Lyon county, having been born on her father's Eidsvold township farm April 23, 1886. She is a daughter of Knute S. Kvanbeck, one of the county's early settlers. Mr. and Mrs. Anderson have one child, Agnes Maria, born September 30, 1911.

ADOLPH TRUDEAU (1901) is in the employ of R. B. Daniel, the real estate man of Marshall. He was born in Iroquois county, Illinois, November 10, 1882, and resided in Illinois until nineteen years of age. The parents of our subject are Alexander and Mary (Shortsleeve) Trudeau, the former a native of Canada and the latter of Illinois. The father immigrated to Illinois when eight years of age, was married in Iroquois county, and resided there until 1901.

In the last named year the father of our subject came to Lyon county, locating near Tracy, where he conducted a large ranch for a year. He then returned to Illinois, where he remained until 1910, when he came back to Lyon county. He has since conducted the farm of his son, Adolph, in Grandview township. To Mr. and Mrs. Alexander Trudeau were born the following children: Adolph, of this sketch; Arthur, of Illinois; David, of Green Valley; Aldea, of Manteno, Illinois; Lida, Zephine, Oscar and Leo, who reside at home.

The man whose name heads this sketch accompanied his parents to Lyon county in 1901 and worked with his father until the following spring. Then he went to work for J. B. Regnier at farm labor and was so employed until the fall of 1902. After spending a few months at his old home in Illinois, Mr. Trudeau returned to Marshall and entered the G. A. Dewey barber shop to finish learning the trade which he had started at St. Anne, Illinois. He worked in that shop two years and then purchased the Anderson barber shop, which he conducted two years and nine months.

After selling his barber shop he purchased, in company with his brother, David, the grocery and crockery business of F. L. Sargent. They converted the store into a general merchandise store and conducted it under the firm name of Trudeau Brothers. They conducted the store until September,

1910, when they were burned out, suffering the loss of their entire stock. Our subject then entered the employ of R. B. Daniel, the real estate man of Marshall, and has since been in his employ.

Our subject owns the north half of the northeast quarter of section 28, Grandview township, and a residence in Marshall. He holds membership in the Catholic Order of Foresters and Knights of Columbus lodges.

GARRETT F. AHERN (1884) is associated with Henry Scheweyen in a general store in Taunton. The firm handles dry goods, groceries, shoes and notions, and has been receiving a liberal patronage.

Mr. Ahern is a Lyon county boy, having been born and brought up in Eidsvold township. He first saw the light of day February 27, 1884, and is a son of Garrett and Katherine (Brown) Ahern, early settlers of the county. Garrett in his early youth attended the country school in Eidsvold and at the age of eighteen entered the Minneota High School for a one year's course. Later he spent one year in Mankato attending the commercial college.

Our subject's first employment after finishing school was with a railroad contracting firm of Chicago, where he remained one year. He next spent a year each at Goodwin and South Shore, in South Dakota, in the employ of local banks. Moving to Karinen, South Dakota, Garrett first went into business for himself, conducting a general store two years. In September, 1911, he returned to Taunton, and in company with his present partner bought the J. F. Shimek stock of general merchandise.

Mr. Ahern is a member of the Catholic church of Minneota, and fraternally he is associated with the Knights of Columbus and the Modern Woodmen lodges.

ALMON HENRY FINCH (1904), of Rock Lake township, was born in Steele county, Minnesota, October 28, 1879, a son of Minnesota pioneers. Alfred Wallace Finch and Helen (Ward) Finch, his father and mother, were born in Vermont and Indiana, respectively, settled in Steele county in 1856, and are now residents of Montevideo.

Almon attended the common schools of

Steele county until fifteen years of age and after securing his education worked on a farm two years. He then learned the buttermaker's trade, which he followed for the next ten years of his life. He learned the trade at Clinton Falls, Minnesota, and thereafter worked at it in several different localities. He came to Lyon county in the fall of 1904 and for one and one-half years conducted the creamery at Balaton. Mr. Finch then turned farmer and has since operated the southwest quarter of section 17, Rock Lake township.

Mr. Finch was married at Montevideo, Minnesota, May 28, 1902, to Emma Ewert. His wife was born in Germany April 10, 1880. They have five children: Pearl, born May 20, 1903; Maynard, born October 18, 1904; Vernon, born July 25, 1906; Laurene, born December 4, 1910. Mr. Finch is a member of the M. W. A. lodge. He served one year as road overseer.

HOWARD ADAMS (1903), proprietor of the Hotel Atlantic barber shop, came to Marshall July 20, 1903, from Luverne, Minnesota, where he learned his trade in the barber shops of F. A. Larkin and Eugene Barck. He worked at his trade in Marshall before buying C. W. Eckes' shop in September, 1906. Mr. Adams conducts a well appointed, three-chair tonsorial parlor and enjoys a liberal patronage.

Our subject was born in Oxford Mills, Iowa, September 25, 1881. At the age of eleven years he moved with the family to Luverne and there learned his trade in the local shops. July 1, 1908, occurred the marriage of Howard Adams and Louisa Oestreich at Worthington, Minnesota. She is a native of Iowa. Mr. Adams is prominent in local fraternal orders, being a member of the Elks, Modern Woodmen, Royal Neighbors and Yeomen lodges.

Howard Adams is one of nine children born to S. J. Adams and Anna L. (Brinn) Adams, natives of Pennsylvania and Missouri, respectively. The other children are Ida, Nora, Myrlti, Bud D., Vera, Glenn and Inez. One daughter, Gertrude, is deceased.

WILLIAM E. TWOGOOD (1904) has been renting and farming the southeast quarter

of section 6, Clifton township, since 1907. He was born in Grand Rapids, Michigan, February 2, 1854, and is a son of Charles and Juliette (Stebbins) Twogood, natives of New York State. When a child of two years William accompanied his parents to Benton county, Iowa, where the father bought land and where William grew to manhood. At the age of twenty years he commenced to farm for himself on land he had purchased, and he resided on the farm until he moved to Belle Plain, Iowa, in 1886.

In that city he conducted a livery and feed stable two years, and after selling out Mr. Twogood worked four years in a creamery, following that with ten years' work as a contractor in railroad construction work. In 1904 he came to Lyon county and rented land in Clifton township, and in 1907 he rented his present place. Mr. Twogood is a member of the Township Board of Supervisors, having served two years, and he has also been for three years a member of the school board of district No. 81.

The marriage of William Twogood and Mary E. Youngman took place in Tama county, Iowa. To this union have been born seven children, Myrtle, Gertrude, Judson, Nadim, Clarence, Larina and Alta. Mrs. Twogood was born near Fulton, Illinois.

Mr. Twogood is a member of the Presbyterian church and fraternally is allied with the A. F. & A. M., Eastern Star, I. O. O. F., Rebekah, Yeomen and Iowa L. of H. lodges.

CHARLES F. BAMFORD (1887), one of the proprietors of the City Livery Barn of Marshall, was born in Lake Marshall township December 2, 1887, the son of William C. and Catherine Bamford. His parents, who were natives of Wisconsin and Maryland, are deceased.

Mr. Bamford grew up on the farm on which he was born and received a district school education. He moved to Marshall early in 1911 and with his brother, William C., bought the livery barn of John Wilson. The boys are hustlers and are doing a good business.

BEN BORSON (1907) is one of the big and successful farmers of Eidsvold township and an extensive feeder of cattle and

hogs. He farms all of section 4, one of the best improved farms in the precinct. He raised 6000 bushels of corn in 1911 and has 220 acres planted in 1912. In 1910 he raised 8000 bushels of small grain.

Mr. Borson was born in Norway July 20, 1877, and came to America in 1893. He located in Iowa and for a number of years farmed in Sac county. He came to Lyon county in the fall of 1907, rented his present farm, and has since been engaged in its management.

Our subject is a son of Baard Grotta and Ingerid (Grotta) Grotta, still residents of Norway. The nine children of the family are Ben, Ingrid (Mrs. Knute Knutson), of Norway; Oluf, of Yellow Medicine county; Ole, of Lyon county; Inga (Mrs. Haas Grong), of Sioux City, Iowa; Ellert and Bertha (twins), Anna and Signe.

Mr. Borson was married in Sioux City, Iowa, January 28, 1899, to Anna Helland, who was born in Norway and who came to the United States in 1892. They have three children, Inga, Albert and Henry. Mr. and Mrs. Borson are members of the Norwegian Lutheran church of Minneota.

OLE BERGE (1906) is the manager of the Gund Brewing Company's beer depot at Tracy. He is a native of North Dakota and was born at Fort Abercrombie June 21, 1876. He is a son of Erick and Isabelle Berge, natives of Norway. They settled at Grand Forks in 1876. Both parents are deceased.

Our subject moved to Grand Forks when a child and grew to manhood and attended school in that city. When twenty years of age he accepted a position as traveling salesman for the Pabst Brewing Company, with headquarters at Grand Forks. Later Mr. Berge moved to Graceville, Minnesota, and resided in several Minnesota towns until 1906, when he came from Breckenridge, Minnesota, to Tracy, where he has since lived. At the latter place he has had charge of the Gund Brewing Company's beer depot. Mr. Berge is a member of the Elks Club, No. 952, of Willmar.

The Gund beer depot is one of the oldest in Tracy, having been established there twenty-two years ago. In the spring of 1911 a large new, modern depot and offices were built. The depot has a capacity of five car

loads. Mr. Berge has been local manager since 1906.

EARL A. COLBY (1908) is the proprietor of a grocery store and bakery in the city of Marshall. He was born in Rockford, Winnebago county, Illinois, July 28, 1881, and in that city he grew to manhood and received his education.

In 1904 Mr. Colby entered the government service as a railroad mail clerk and during the next three years he was on the run between Chicago and Dubuque. The next year was spent in the service between Chicago and Minneapolis. He resigned his position in 1908 and became a resident of Marshall. At that time he bought the grocery and bakery business of J. R. Wolff and has since conducted it. He has doubled the business of the store and has one of the neatest stores of the kind in Lyon county.

Mr. Colby was married in Rockford, Illinois, June 9, 1908, to Florence G. Hollister, a native of Chicago.

Our subject is prominent in Masonic circles. He holds membership in the Blue Lodge, Chapter, Commandery, Mystic Shrine and Eastern Star, all of Rockford except the Eastern Star. He is worthy patron of the last named order in Marshall. He held the office of illustrious recorder of the Mystic Shrine at Rockford and was active in the work of that lodge.

Earl A. Colby is the eldest in a family of four sons, the others being Richard L., Harry F. and Nathan D. His parents are Frank L. and Loreno O. (Drury) Colby, residents of Durand, Illinois. Both parents are natives of Wisconsin and of old American stock.

GEORGE HOOK (1901), well-to-do farmer of Amiret township, was born in Blackhawk county, Iowa, May 5, 1876, and is a son of Eugene F. and Madeline (Stromeyer) Hook, the former of whom is deceased and the latter being a resident of Tracy.

George accompanied his parents to Lyon county in the spring of 1901 and the family located in Monroe township, where the father purchased land. They resided there seven years. Upon the death of the father in the fall of 1908, the mother moved to Tracy, where she has since made her home.

The subject of this sketch received his early education in Iowa in attendance at the country school. At the age of sixteen the boy had to give up the idea of further schooling and hired out at various kinds of labor until nineteen years old.

November 26, 1896, George Hook was married to Ella Gerholdt, a native of Blackhawk county, Iowa, the wedding taking place in that state. Mrs. Hook was born April 20, 1879, and is a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Gerholdt, natives of Blackhawk county. Three children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Hook, as follows: Ruth, born December 8, 1897; Bert, born May 27, 1904; Leslie, born September 25, 1907; and Hazel, born April 5, 1910.

During the first year after his marriage Mr. Hook ran a general store in Iowa. He then engaged in farming three years in the same state, and in the spring of 1901 moved to Lyon county and took up his residence on the farm he now owns and operates, the north half of the northeast quarter of section 24, Amiret township. He owns in addition to that farm 240 acres in Redwood county, and he farms an additional quarter on section 12, Amiret township. Mr. Hook raises a great deal of stock for shipment.

Besides his farming interests Mr. Hook has invested in stock in the Amiret State Bank and holds shares in the Tracy Co-operative Creamery Company and the Farmers Elevator Company.

JOHN ENGESSER (1909) is a comparatively new comer to Lyon county and is the owner of a fine improved half section of land on section 9, Custer township.

Our subject's parents, Thomas and Rosa (Manch) Engesser, both natives of Germany, came to America when young and settled in Washington county, Wisconsin. There John was born December 26, 1864, and was brought up, receiving his education in the schools of the district and during his early teens helping his father on the farm. When John was eighteen years of age the family moved to Blackhawk county, Iowa, and farmed rented land one year, afterward going to Kossuth county and buying a quarter section, where they made their home, later increasing their land holdings to 360 acres.

When John was twenty-six years of age he was given 120 acres of land by his father, left the home place, and commenced farming for himself. He remained on his Kossuth county farm until 1899, when he sold and moved to Texas, buying a section there and farming nine years. He sold his Texas property and returned to Kossuth county, where he rented one year before coming to Lyon county and buying the south half of section 9, Custer. Mr. Engesser has a splendid farm and raises Duroc-Jersey hogs and Hereford cattle in addition to his other farm work.

The ceremony which made John Engesser and Kate Klein husband and wife was performed March 31, 1891, in Kossuth county, Iowa. Mrs. Engesser was born in that county February 14, 1873, and is a daughter of William and Cathrine (Bear) Klein, both natives of Germany. Eleven children have been born to John Engesser and wife: Peter W., born February 18, 1892; Clotilda R., born April 13, 1894; Martha A., born January 6, 1896; Bertha M., born June 12, 1898; Thomas A., born December 31, 1899; Pearl R., born March 20, 1902; Mary A., born December 25, 1903; William J., born September 12, 1907; Francis M., born October 20, 1908; John H., born March 8, 1910; and Margarette L., born August 17, 1911.

The Engessers are members of the Catholic church. Mr. Engesser is treasurer of school district No. 85.

HARRY E. CALEY (1879), manager of the Mutual Elevator Company of Marshall, has resided in Lyon county since he was a child. He was born in Dover township, Racine county, Wisconsin, August 11, 1876, the son of Charlie and Mercia (Cady) Caley. The father died in 1910; the mother makes her home with a daughter, Mrs. Frank W. Case. There are four other children in the family, namely: Delano, George, Lottie and Edith Joyce.

When a child Harry E. Caley came to Lyon county with his parents. Until he was eighteen years of age he lived on his father's farm in Sodus township, attending the district school and assisting with the farm work. He moved to Marshall from the farm and completed his education in the Marshall High School. For several years thereafter

he was employed in various capacities. For one year he was conductor of a Seventh Street car in St. Paul, and for two years he was with the dining car department of the Northern Pacific on the run between St. Paul and Portland. He returned to Marshall and for two years clerked in his father's grocery store.

In 1909 Mr. Caley took the position with the Mutual Elevator Company and has since been the manager of that business. The elevator is the largest one in the city and has a capacity of 45,000 bushels. It was built by the Marfield Tearse Company fifteen or more years ago and was bought in 1907 by E. I. Leland, since which time the business has been carried on under the name of Mutual Elevator Company.

Mr. Caley was married August 12, 1908, to Lucy Jones, a native of Redwood county, Minnesota, and a daughter of Senator John N. Jones. Mr. and Mrs. Caley have a son, Robert Jenkins. Our subject is a member of the M. W. A. lodge.

WILLIAM D. WILLARD (1899) is the owner of the northeast quarter of section 17, Sodus township. He was born in Marion, Iowa, May 14, 1866, a son of Porter and Cynthia (Holcomb) Willard, the former a native of Pennsylvania and the latter of New York. They came to Iowa in an early day and the father followed the stone-mason and brick-layer's trades and later farmed. William resided at home until twenty-one years of age, after which he worked out and farmed for himself. He later worked three years in a cheese factory. In 1898 he moved to Redwood county, Minnesota, where he farmed one year.

In 1899 our subject came to Lyon county and rented the southeast quarter of section 20, Sodus township, which he still operates. He owns the northeast quarter of section 17, Sodus, having bought eighty acres in 1907 and eighty in 1910.

Mr. Willard was married at Anamosa, Iowa, December 29, 1897, to Clara Cockell, a native of Jones county, Iowa. She was born December 20, 1874, and is a daughter of Joseph and Hannah (Leggett) Cockell, the former a native of England and the latter of New York. The father died in 1874; the mother lives in Jones county. Mr.

and Mrs. Willard are the parents of four children: Porter F., born September 1, 1899; Vernon W., born October 22, 1901; Joseph L., born February 16, 1903; Eva L., born January 10, 1906.

WILLIAM L. LUCAS (1911) is a farmer living near Balaton. He rents and farms the south half of the southwest quarter of section 21, Rock Lake, owned by Mrs. Henry Johnson.

Mr. Lucas was born in Peoria county, Illinois, September 12, 1873. His father is no longer living, and his mother, Catherine (Schenck) Lucas, is a resident of Knoxville, Illinois. The parents were early settlers of Illinois. William received his early education in Illinois in the country school, and at the age of twenty took up his share of the farm work with his father, remaining at home the next three years. He then engaged in farming for himself in Illinois four years. Just prior to coming to Lyon county Mr. Lucas was engaged for several months as conductor on the street car lines in Galesburg, Illinois.

In Knoxville, Illinois, William Lucas was married to Mertie A. Barr, a native of Ohio, the wedding occurring September 25, 1907. Mrs. Lucas was born August 25, 1876. Mr. and Mrs. Lucas are the parents of Rosalia May, born January 20, 1909, and Bertha Helen, born April 30, 1911.

BIRNEY L. CHENEY (1904) is manager of the elevator of G. W. VanDusen & Company at Marshall. He is a native of Hillsdale county, Michigan, and was born December 16, 1875. At the age of nine years he moved with his parents to Gratiot county, of the same state, and until he was eighteen years of age resided on the farm. He received a common school education and for fourteen years engaged in teaching, during that time taking a course at the Michigan State Normal School and a business course at Yerrington College, St. Louis, Michigan.

Mr. Cheney came to Lyon county in August, 1904, and during the fall months he engaged in threshing. He taught school in his old Michigan home the next winter and the following fall located permanently in Marshall. In October, 1905, he took the

position of engineer with the Union Heating Plant Company, an enterprise founded by eight business men of the town to furnish heat for several business houses on the east side of Main Street. Mr. Cheney was so employed two years. In June, 1907, he took a position with the Marshall News-Messenger and worked at the printer's trade two years, being obliged then to give up the work on account of defective eyesight.

On October 26, 1909, Mr. Cheney took the position of manager of the VanDusen elevator and has been so employed since. The elevator, which has a capacity of 25,000 bushels, is owned by Minneapolis people. George VanDusen is president of the company and F. O. Yates is secretary.

Our subject is the son of Byron E. and Lydia A. (Bird) Cheney, natives, respectively, of New York State and Hillsdale county, Michigan. The mother died July 4, 1907; the father lives in Gratiot county, Michigan. There are six children in the family, as follows: Birney L., Nellie I., Reuben B., Marion P., Amy J. and Ray. Mr. Cheney is a member of the Modern Woodmen lodge and of the Marshall Fire Department.

Mr. Cheney was married at Ithica, Michigan, May 22, 1907, to Mary A. Crozier, a native of Gratiot county, Michigan.

OTTO WAHLQUIST (1900) just recently located on his present farm, the northeast quarter of section 9, Custer township, but has been a resident of the township during the past five years.

Coming to America at the age of seventeen, our subject located in Chicago, where he worked four years in the E. A. Hartwald planing mills. His next home was in Kosuth county, Iowa, and Otto engaged in farm labor the next five years, leaving Iowa to come to Minnesota. He and L. Larson bought 240 acres of land in Sodus township, Lyon county, and farmed the place in partnership two years. Selling his interest, Otto bought a quarter section near Marshall, rented the farm two years to H. O. Robbins, and then sold it. He resided in Marshall four years and conducted the Enterprise wood and feed yard.

It was after our subject had sold his farm near Marshall that he first located in Custer township, renting and farming 240 acres on

section 3 the following five years. During that time he purchased the quarter on section 9 and a year later moved to the place where he now resides, which is a well improved farm.

Otto Wahlquist and Mary Ford were married in Sodus township April 23, 1902. Mrs. Wahlquist was born in that township October 26, 1876, and her parents, Henry and Margaret Ford, are living in Sodus. Two children, Pearl and June, have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Otto Wahlquist. The parents are members of the Presbyterian church.

The subject of our sketch was born in Sweden June 28, 1874, and was brought up and educated in that country. His parents, Erick and Annie (Olson) Erickson, both died when Otto was a child.

THOMAS CLAUSEN (1907) is a blacksmith of the village of Balaton. He was born in Germany January 28, 1888, and came to the United States in 1907. He located in Balaton at that time, purchased the Nord blacksmith shop, and has conducted it since. He engages in general blacksmithing.

Our subject's father, Thomas Clausen, died in Germany in 1908. After that event Mr. Clausen furnished funds and brought the family to America. The mother, Katrina Clausen, resides with her son, Fred Clausen, in Rock Lake township. The other members of the family are Christ, a blacksmith at Russell; Anna (Mrs. Hans Mork), of Russell; Sophia (Mrs. R. W. Nelson), of this county. The subject of this review is a member of the Yeomen lodge.

Mr. Clausen was married in Balaton October 28, 1910, to Johanna Mark, a native of Denmark who came to the United States in 1909.

FORBES CLENDENNING (1884) sells Texas land and is at present connected with the George Schain Land Company of Tracy. His home is at Marshall.

Born at Ragland, Ontario, Canada, May 24, 1880, Forbes at the age of four years came with his parents to Lyon county, and the family located on a farm.

When Forbes was fourteen the family moved to Marshall and there the young man grew up and attended school, taking his last

year of high school work in Lake Benton. After his schooling was finished he clerked in a Lake Benton grocery store one year and then worked for his uncle, Samuel J. Forbes, in Marshall one year. Following this term of service our subject clerked for several years and was finally appointed the first rural mail carrier out of Marshall, holding that commission about three years and resigning to take a homestead in South Dakota, near Bowbells, in Ward county. After proving up, Mr. Clendenning returned to Marshall and was employed by attorney Thomas E. Davis, collecting and writing insurance. Prior to engaging in the land business in the spring of 1912, our subject had been again for several years clerking in stores.

Forbes Clendenning is a son of Isaac and Elenor (Forbes) Clendenning, natives of Canada and of Scotch-Irish descent. They reside in Marshall and have six children living: Maggie, Forbes, Mary (Mrs. Harry Chatman), Walter, Harry and Joseph.

VICTOR SOMMER (1910) is a farmer of Stanley township and owns the southwest quarter of section 34. He has lived in the county only two years, although he has owned his property for a much longer time.

In the province of Mecklenburg, Germany, on the seventeenth day of April, 1857, Victor Sommer was born, the son of Jacob and Mary (Eppke) Sommer. He spent his boyhood days attending school in his native country and at the age of twelve years, in 1869, came to America with his parents. Until he reached his majority Mr. Sommer lived with his parents in Cook county, Illinois, and worked as a farm hand. He then took up stationary engineering, which he followed until moving to Lyon county in 1910.

When a young man Mr. Sommer struggled against great odds and was the sole support of his father and mother. By industry and hard work he has prospered and is in good circumstances. Ten years ago, while living in Gilberts, Illinois, Mr. Sommer purchased his Lyon county farm, and in the fall of 1910 he located on the place and engaged in farming. He engages in stock raising quite extensively.

Mr. Sommer was married in Cook county, Illinois, on November 2, 1879, to Dora Lau-

ing, a native of the county in which she was married. She was born March 27, 1862. Mr. and Mrs. Sommer have the following children: Lillie, born December 4, 1881; Robert and Minnie (twins), born January 25, 1883; Mary, born August 10, 1884; Sophia, born April 14, 1886; Victor J., born September 10, 1888; Emma, born December 27, 1892, died April 2, 1912; Dora, born November 12, 1894; Laura, born July 12, 1897. The family are members of the German Lutheran church of Marshall.

MARVIN PETERSON (1911) is the junior member of the firm of Peterson Brothers, of Garvin, dealers in dry goods, groceries, shoes, notions and crockery. He is a native of Murray county and was born in Lake Sarah township February 28, 1889, a son of Godfrey and Anna (Olson) Peterson, who now reside in Murray county.

Marvin received his early education in the public schools of Slayton and Tracy and later attended Humboldt College, of Humboldt, Iowa. He was graduated from the commercial department of the latter institution in 1908, after which he engaged in farming with a brother in Murray county. Mr. Peterson continued his agricultural pursuits until January, 1909, at which time he engaged as a drug clerk at Crosby, North Dakota, for a short time. He was later engaged as assistant cashier of the Security State Bank of Crosby, North Dakota, until January 1, 1911, when, in company with his brother, Clarence Peterson, he engaged in the general merchandise business at Garvin. They have enjoyed a very prosperous trade in their late venture, carrying, as they do, a stock valued at between six and seven thousand dollars.

Mr. Peterson is a member of the Norwegian Lutheran church. He is a stockholder of the Farmers State Bank of Garvin and in the company which publishes the Garvin Leader.

On September 22, 1911, occurred the marriage of Mr. Peterson to Ida Stageberg, a native of Lac qui Parle county, Minnesota. She was born March 29, 1891.

JULIUS ZABEL (1906) is the proprietor of a well-improved farm, the east half

of the southeast quarter of section 17, in Custer township. He is a native of Germany, the son of Fred and Elizabeth (Zasch) Zabel, and was born in West Prusen January 31, 1868. His father died in Germany and his mother is still living at the age of seventy-two years.

The first twenty-one years of our subject's life were spent in his native land, during which time he was educated and spent several years helping his father. In 1889 Julius and a sister came to the United States and located in O'Brien county, Iowa. There Mr. Zabel worked two years on the railroad and several years on a farm as a hired hand. He then rented land and farmed for himself several years, later moving to Grant county, Minnesota, where he also rented land. In 1906 Mr. Zabel came to Lyon county and bought the land which he has since farmed.

Our subject was married in O'Brien county, Iowa, May 22, 1896, to Augusta Dahlke, who was born in Germany May 19, 1874. Mrs. Zabel is a daughter of Christ and Augusta (Goltz) Dahlke, of Custer township. She and her husband are members of the German Lutheran church. Their children are Walter, born March 25, 1897; Martha, born July 29, 1900; Agnus, born September 15, 1904; and Bernhart, born July 7, 1906.

HANS P. SANDEN (1872) is a resident of Florence, near which place he has farmed for a great many years, having been a resident of Lyon county forty years. He was born in Opdahl, Trondhjem, Norway, October 30, 1852, a son of Peter A. and Karen (Sanden) Torseth. Hans grew to manhood and received his early education in Norway, where he resided until eighteen years of age. In 1871 he came to America and located at Fountain, Fillmore county, Minnesota. He worked on the railroad then being built between St. James and LeMars, Iowa, and later the railroad near Mankato.

In the fall of 1872 our subject came to Lyon county and took as a homestead the northwest quarter of section 20, Shelburne township, which he made his home continuously until a few years ago. In 1888 the Great Northern railroad was built

and he sold the north half of his homestead to the railroad company for a townsite and that is where the present village of Florence is located. Later Mr. Sanden purchased his father's homestead, the northeast quarter of section 20 and the south half of the northwest quarter of section 21, making him the owner of 320 acres of fine land in Shelburne township. The first three years our subject was in the county the crops were a complete failure on account of the grasshoppers, but the fourth year was a good one. During Mr. Sanden's first winter here provisions had to be hauled from New Ulm, a trip which required three weeks' time to make with oxen, which was all they had at that time. Two years ago our subject's wife died and he has made his home in Florence since that time.

Mr. Sanden is a member of the Norwegian Lutheran church. He is a stockholder and a director of the State Bank of Florence and is treasurer of school district No. 78. He has served eleven years as assessor of the township, having served as its first assessor, and has been on the Township Board of Supervisors. He served as chairman of the board two years. He is a member of the M. W. A. and A. O. U. W. lodges.

The subject of this review was married in Shelburne township August 18, 1883, to Mary Lein, a native of Faribault county, Minnesota. She was born April 11, 1863, and was a daughter of Bent and Johannah Lein, natives of Norway. Mrs. Sanden died October 30, 1907. Mr. and Mrs. Sanden were the parents of the following named children: Petra, born June 4, 1884; Hannah A., born June 21, 1888; Carl B., born November 21, 1891; Burt C., born July 5, 1898.

HENRY H. BENSON (1884) is the efficient assistant cashier of the State Bank of Florence. He is a native of Lyon county and was born in Shelburne township September 17, 1884, the son of Hans and Christina (Christianson) Benson, who came from Norway to Lyon county in the early seventies and settled in Shelburne township, where they still reside.

The father assisted in building the rail-

road west from Tracy through the county. He purchased land at different times until now he is the owner of 560 acres of fine land in the township in which he has resided so long. They are the parents of the following named nine children: Lottie (Mrs. John Anderson), of Tyler, Minnesota; Bert and Adolph, who reside on the home farm; Ragna (Mrs. A. B. Anderson), of Florence; Henry H., of this sketch; Hulda, who died when three years of age; Clara, Lena, Emma and Elmer, who reside with their parents.

Henry Benson resided at home until twenty-three years of age, attending school and assisting in the work on the farm. After finishing a common school education, he went to the Sioux Falls Business College for two terms. In February, 1910, he entered the employ of the State Bank of Florence as bookkeeper and continued in that capacity until January, 1911, when he was promoted to the position of assistant cashier. He is also a stockholder in the bank. Mr. Benson is a member of the Norwegian Lutheran church and of the Masonic and Modern Woodmen lodges.

OLIVER A. KILLIUS (1903). One of the most prosperous farmers of Lyon county is Oliver A. Killius, the proprietor of Star Farm on section 17, Sodus township. He has lived in the county nine years, has been successful in his farming operations, and is rated among the substantial men of his precinct.

Mr. Killius is a native of Mason county, Illinois, and was born July 12, 1878. His father, George Killius, was born in Germany November 28, 1848, came to America at the age of two years, was brought up in Mason county, Illinois, lived for many years in Nebraska, later in Iowa, and is now a resident of Sodus township. The mother of our subject is Catherine (Arnold) Killius. She was born in West Virginia March 22, 1848, and was married in Mason county, Illinois.

When Oliver was three years of age he accompanied his parents to Fillmore county, Nebraska. There he received his schooling and spent his boyhood days, moving with the family at the age of seventeen to Franklin county, Iowa. He lived



HANS P. SANDEN

For Forty Years a Resident of Shelburne Township.



HENRY H. BENSON

Assistant Cashier of the State Bank of Florence.



MR. AND MRS. OLIVER A. KILLIUS

Proprietors of Star Farm, Sodus Township.



F. T. SHAEFFER

Cashier of the Amiret State Bank.



in that Iowa county until his removal to Lyon county.

In the fall of 1902 Mr. Killius came to Lyon county and purchased the northwest quarter of section 17, Sodus township. The following spring he and his wife moved to their new home, which has ever since been their place of residence. At the time of purchase the place was wild, unimproved land—far different from the well-improved farm of the present day. Mr. Killius has made all the improvements and justly takes pride in his achievements, for he has one of the fine farm homes of the county.

Mr. Killius raises considerable stock, including thoroughbred Duroc-Jersey hogs. In the raising of swine he has gained a wide reputation, and shippers declare that Mr. Killius' hogs are the finest turned in at the local market. He turns from fifty to seventy-five head per year. Mrs. Killius is a chicken fancier and takes great pride in her birds, raising about 400 full-blooded Black Langshangs each year.

Ella McKinnon became the wife of Mr. Killius in Dixon, Missouri, on May 8, 1902. She was born March 26, 1881, and is the daughter of Ning and Mary (Null) McKinnon, natives of Missouri and descendants of pioneer settlers of that state. Mr. and Mrs. Killius have no children. They are members of Easter Presbyterian Church of Sodus township.

ALVIN E. WEIDAUER (1901) is a farmer and land owner of Lake Marshall township and has lived in Lyon county for several years. He is a native of Saxony, Germany, and was born March 16, 1873. He came to America with his parents in 1881, locating at Philo, Illinois. There they resided for thirteen years and Alvin attended school. In 1894 Alvin moved to Calhoun county, Iowa, where the family had moved two years previous.

Our subject spent two years in Calhoun county and then went to Chester, Nebraska, where he resided six months, working out. He then took a trip through Kansas, Oklahoma, Indian Territory and Texas, returning to his home in November. In the spring of 1897 Mr. Weidauer rented the home place of his father for one year.

He also operated a threshing machine for several years. He then rented land in Pocahontas county for three years.

In the spring of 1901 Mr. Weidauer came to Lyon county and in February of that year he purchased one hundred sixty acres of section 19, Lake Marshall township, where he has since resided, with the exception of a year spent in Iowa. Our subject raises Shorthorn cattle and Poland China hogs. He is a shareholder of the Farmers Elevator Company of Marshall. He has membership in the German Evangelical church and the Modern Woodmen lodge. In partnership with his brother Herman, Mr. Weidauer engages in the threshing business.

At Marshall, on February 8, 1904, Mr. Weidauer was united in marriage to Ida Coon, a daughter of Charles and Frederica (Hass) Coon, natives of Germany. To this union have been born the following four children: Orvel L., born December 19, 1904; Edward W., born October 30, 1906; Dora E., born April 4, 1908; Mabel E., born December 2, 1910.

F. T. SHAEFFER (1899) is the cashier of the Amiret State Bank. He is a native of Ames, Iowa, where he was born June 14, 1875, a son of William and Mary (Hanson) Shaeffer, the former a native of Indiana and the latter of Sweden. They were early settlers of Boone county, Iowa. The father died in March, 1909, aged fifty-eight years; the mother resides at Burt, Iowa. They were the parents of the following children: John A., of Clear Lake, Iowa; F. T., of this sketch; Henry W., of Dolliver, Iowa; Annie (Mrs. Dr. D. W. Pratt), of Burt, Iowa; Maud (Mrs. Will Fish), of Iroquois, South Dakota; Ralph, of Lewistown, Montana; and William, of Minot, North Dakota.

In 1882 F. T. Shaeffer accompanied his parents to Burt, Iowa, where he grew to manhood and where he was graduated from the high school. In 1898 he went to Revere, Minnesota, where he was employed one year by the Standard Lumber Company. On January 1, 1899, Mr. Shaeffer came to Lyon county and located at Amiret, where he has since resided, having been the local manager of the Standard

Lumber Company since that date. He is one of the organizers and stockholders of the Amiret State Bank and has been its cashier since the bank opened its doors. Mr. Shaeffer is a member of the Masonic, Modern Woodmen and Yeomen lodges and is township clerk.

The Amiret State Bank, of which our subject is cashier, was established October 1, 1910, by a number of the business men and farmers of Amiret and vicinity and was capitalized for \$10,000. It has enjoyed a prosperous business. The officers and directors are: President, Lester J. Fitch; vice president, R. A. Mitchell; cashier F. T. Shaeffer; Solomon Greeley and C. S. Rowell. Mrs. F. T. Shaeffer is assistant cashier. The bank building was erected by the institution. The bank does a general banking, insurance, real estate and farm loan business.

Mr. Shaeffer was married in Amiret October 4, 1900, to Agnes McLaughlin, a native of Steele county, Minnesota. She is a daughter of David McLaughlin, of Amiret. Mr. and Mrs. Shaeffer have one child, Floyd.

ALBERT B. DANE (1895) is the efficient clerk for F. M. Healy & Son, of Marshall. He is a native of the Gopher State and was born at Janesville, Waseca county, Minnesota, February 9, 1876. He grew to manhood there and was graduated from the high school of that place in 1893. Thereafter he clerked in stores at Janesville eighteen months.

In November, 1895, our subject came to Lyon county and worked as a baker's apprentice for H. E. Barnum, working also for the same gentleman later at Tracy and Kasota Junction. He returned to Marshall and was in the employ of George Rose, who succeeded Mr. Barnum in the bakery business, and later he returned to Janesville, where he worked a year. Returning to Marshall, he entered the employ of F. M. Healy, for whom he worked two years. In March, 1900, Mr. Dane returned to Janesville and engaged in the confectionery and restaurant business for himself, continuing until November 5, 1910. He then came back to Marshall and has since been in the employ of F. M. Healy

& Son, as clerk. Mr. Dane is a member of the Masonic, Modern Woodmen and Ancient Order of United Workmen lodges.

On July 10, 1901, at Marshall, occurred the marriage of our subject to Blanch Goodwin, a daughter of Joshua Goodwin, one of the early settlers of Lyon county. Mr. and Mrs. Dane are the parents of one child, Dorothy Zadia.

ADOLPH T. ANDERSON (1886) has spent the entire twenty-six years of his life in Nordland township. He is the son of pioneer settlers and homesteaders, Lewis and Stena Ellefson. His father was born in Norway, his mother in Wisconsin. They came to Lyon county in the seventies and took a homestead, later buying the southeast quarter of section 33, Nordland.

On that farm, on November 24, 1886, Adolph Anderson was born, and there he has ever since had his home. He received a district school education and worked for his father until 1909. Then he rented the farm and has since conducted it to his own account.

Mr. Anderson was married in Minneota to Rena Skogen. She is also a native of the county and is a daughter of Halvor O. and Christie Skogen, of Nordland township. Lila and Harvey are Mr. and Mrs. Anderson's children.

JOHN HOLDEN, JR. (1901) is the manager of the Hayes-Lucas Lumber Company's yard at Garvin. Although he has been an actual resident of Lyon county less than a dozen years, he was born just over the county line in Murray county and has practically spent his life here. He is one of the progressive young business men of the little city in which he lives.

Lake Sarah township, Murray county, is the birthplace of Mr. Holden and September 30, 1879, was the date of his birth. He received a common school education and remained on his father's farm until twenty years of age. Then he took a course in the Sioux Falls Business College and in 1900 located at Beresford, South Dakota, where for one year he was in the employ of the F. M. Slagle Lumber Company. He spent one year working for

the Hayes-Lucas Lumber Company at Marshall, and in the summer of 1902 he was given the management of the yards at Garvin, where he has since lived.

Mr. Holden is interested in several local enterprises. He is a stockholder of the Farmers State Bank of Garvin, secretary of the Farmers Elevator Company, and was one of the promoters of the Garvin Telephone Company and its first president. He is the clerk of Custer township and has held the position for four or five years. Mr. Holden is a thirty-second degree Mason, holding membership in the Blue Lodge at Tracy and in the Scottish Rite at Winoona. He is also a member of the Modern Woodmen lodge.

Maud Edwards, a native of Lyon county and a daughter of Ed. Edwards, became the wife of Mr. Holden at Garvin on December 16, 1903. They have three children, Maurice, Mildred and Maxson.

Our subject is a son of John J. and Karen (Peterson) Holden. They were born in Norway, came to America early in life, and were married at Madison, Wisconsin. After their marriage they moved to Dodge county, Minnesota, and in 1876 to Lake Sarah township, Murray county, where they homesteaded and where they still live. They have seven children: Sophia, Julius, Carl, Lottie, Annie, John and Matilda.

GUSTAV RADKE (1908) bought the north half of the northeast quarter of section 36, Amiret township, from his father in the fall of 1911, and has since been farming the place. He has built on the farm and has a modern and well-improved place in every respect.

Gustav is the fourth in age of a family of seven children born to Julius and Johannah (Shultz) Radke, natives of Germany. He was born in Germany August 25, 1878, and when five years old he accompanied the family to America. They located in Lincoln, Nebraska, and the elder Radke worked out at farm labor two years and then moved to Wood Lake, Nebraska. There Gustav received his education and grew to young manhood.

In 1896 the subject of this sketch went to Hancock county, Iowa, where he worked

on a farm until 1908, in which year he came to Lyon county. His parents had preceded him several years, and after moving to the county Gustav worked for his father and also ran a threshing rig in the falls. In 1911 he bought eighty acres from his father and has since been farming for himself.

ANTON MACK (1910) was until recently the proprietor of a pool hall in Tracy. He is a native of Iowa and was born at Dubuque May 8, 1882. The parents of our subject are John and Margaretta (Kreck) Mack, natives of Germany. They came to America about thirty-five years ago and located at Dubuque. The father died at Bancroft, Iowa; the mother resides in Minneapolis. They were the parents of eight children: John, Sebastian, Maggie, Lizzie, George, Anton, Louis and Frank.

Anton learned the carpenter's trade at Doland, South Dakota, and later engaged in contracting at Fort Pierre and Miller, South Dakota. In 1910 our subject came to Lyon county, buying the Sam A. Pittinger pool hall at Tracy, which he conducted until May, 1912. At that time he sold his interests in Tracy and moved to Sauk Center, Minnesota, where he is now engaged in the real estate business.

Mr. Mack was married at Bancroft, Iowa, August 28, 1906, to Julia Higgins. They are the parents of one child, Arthur Murl.

EMIL DAHLKE (1908), who rents the northeast quarter of section 28, Custer township, was born in Germany April 22, 1872, and until the age of seventeen lived in his native land, receiving an education in the common schools.

He accompanied his parents, Christ and Vasta (Goltz) Dahlke, to America in 1889. The family settled in O'Brien county, Iowa, where they rented land and farmed ten years, Emil assisting his father. The young man then set out for himself, moving to Minnesota and locating in Traverse county, where he rented land and farmed seven years. In 1908 he came to Lyon county and rented the farm in Cus-

ter which he now conducts. He raises Duroc-Jersey and Poland China hogs.

While living in Traverse county Emil Dahlke was married to Christina Bowers, the wedding occurring March 3, 1903. His wife was born in Germany April 1, 1883, and is a daughter of Christ and Christina (Vollmer) Bowers. The following children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Dahlke: Carl, born March 1, 1904; Elsa, born October 12, 1906; Mary, born December 24, 1908; Emil, born January 13, 1910; and Willie, born December 9, 1911.

PETER PILOTTE (1895) is the renter of a fine quarter section of land in Vallers township, where he has resided ever since coming to the county in 1895.

Mr. Pilotte is a son of Jacob and Restedude (Pronix) Pilotte, who moved to Illinois in 1848 from Canada and settled in Kankakee county, where Jacob Pilotte bought land at \$1.25 per acre. Peter grew up in Kankakee county and received his education in the district schools. He remained on the home farm after his schooling was finished, and it was not until he had reached the age of twenty-four years that the young man started farming for himself, on land which he had purchased a few years previously.

Our subject sold his farm in 1893 and moved to Iowa, buying forty acres in Woodbury county and farming there one year. He then sold out and took up his residence in Lyon county, renting 320 acres of land on section 16, Vallers township, where he has since resided. He raises considerable stock and is partial to the Durham breed of cattle and the Duroc-Jersey breed of hogs. Every year Mr. Pilotte makes a shipment of cattle to the large markets.

Peter Pilotte and Cecilia Lawrence were married in Illinois October 16, 1877. Mrs. Pilotte was born in Kankakee county January 1, 1849, and is a daughter of Lewis and Louise (Martin) Lawrence, natives of New York and Canada. Mr. and Mrs. Pilotte are the parents of the following children: Archie, born March 18, 1881; Arthur, born September 11, 1889; Leo, born March 28, 1891; Calix, born February 14,

1893; Fred, born July 12, 1897; and Marie, born January 28, 1900. The Pilottes are members of the Catholic church.

HANS P. NELSON (1906) is one of Clifton township's farmers and he rents the north half of section 36. He has a well improved farm and raises considerable stock.

Mr. Nelson is a son of Nels Albertson and Annie Hanson and was born in Denmark May 29, 1857. There he was brought up and there he received the customary education of the farmer boy of that country. He was fourteen years of age when he commenced to learn the tailor's trade and he continued in that business in the Fatherland until 1879. That year he came to this country, located in Chicago and worked at his trade a few months. Then he moved to St. Paul and continued working at his trade.

After working in St. Paul several years Mr. Nelson started a shop of his own and remained in that city two years. He then sold out, and during the next seven years at different times he conducted shops in Pipestone and Redwood Falls. Finally he sold his business and invested in 160 acres of farm land in Redwood county, near Redwood Falls, which he operated eighteen years. He sold his land in 1906 and came to Lyon county. He has since been living on the north half of section 36. While in Redwood county Mr. Nelson served seven years as school clerk and six years as a member of the township board.

The marriage of Hans Nelson and Lenora C. Peterson was celebrated in St. Paul February 2, 1881. She was born in Veile, Denmark, April 20, 1862, and is a daughter of Peter and Annie (Raarup) Peterson, both of whom died in the old country. Mr. and Mrs. Nelson are the parents of eleven children, Nels, Edward, Walter, Anton, Dewey, Louis, Ida, Selma, Helga, Daisie and Alice.

Our subject is a member of the Norwegian Lutheran church and his fraternal associations are with the I. O. O. F. lodge.

MICHAEL W. SCHOUWEILER (1912) is proprietor of the Klondike Saloon of

Marshall. He is a native Minnesotan, having been born in Wabasha county February 25, 1863. Until he reached his majority he resided on his father's homestead in that county, and then he started out to make his own way in the world.

Mr. Schouweiler has engaged in a great many occupations and has resided in many parts of the country. He farmed near Warren, Minnesota, one and one-half years, lived in Butte, Montana, five months, worked for a brother-in-law in Wabasha county one year, and then completed his education with a year's course in the Winona High School. He spent a short time in North St. Paul thereafter, lived in Lac qui Parle county one season, farmed in Wabasha county one year, conducted a saloon in North St. Paul two years, in Wabasha county two years, and then bought a farm in that county and operated it two years.

Plainview, Minnesota, was the next home of our subject. There he was the proprietor of a saloon one year and of a restaurant and pool hall four or five years. At Pollock, Campbell county, South Dakota, Mr. Schouweiler erected a building and engaged in the saloon business ten and one-half years. He operated a saloon at Sanborn, Minnesota, six months, and on January 22, 1912, he located in Marshall and purchased the Klondike Saloon. He has met with success during his short residence in the city and has built up a good trade. Mr. Schouweiler owns a farm in Campbell county, South Dakota.

The marriage of Mr. Schouweiler to Katie Losch occurred in New Richmond, Wisconsin, July 5, 1888. She is a native of Iowa. They have seven children: Lilly, the wife of Louis Traxinger, who tends bar for Mr. Schouweiler; Laura, Agnes, Olevia, Rosa, Jesse and Magdelin.

Frank and Eva (Leonard) Schouweiler, the parents of our subject, were born in Germany, came to America in 1854, lived in Iowa a few months, and then took a homestead claim in Wabasha county, Minnesota. On that farm they lived the rest of their lives. They celebrated their golden wedding on June 6, 1904, and died a few years later. They had fourteen children, of whom the following named six sons and five daughters are living:

John N., Michael W., Frank, Peter, Garrett, Andrew, Katie, Maggie, Jennie, Annie and Lizzie.

JOHN MAHER (1911), who owns and farms 240 acres of land on section 16, Rock Lake township, is a recent arrival to Lyon county, having spent his entire previous life in Wisconsin. He has a well-improved farm and raises Duroc-Jersey and Poland China hogs.

His parents, Thomas and Julian (McDonald) Maher, are deceased. The father was born in Ireland, the mother in Shellsburg, Wisconsin. John Maher was born in Monroe, Wisconsin, October 1, 1873. He attended school until sixteen years of age and worked on the home farm until he was twenty-three. He then engaged in farming for himself, bought land in his native state, and resided there until 1911. That year he came to Lyon county and purchased his Rock Lake township farm.

Mr. Maher was married at Monroe, Wisconsin, February 15, 1897, to Ella Ward, who was born in the city in which she was married February 9, 1878. They have one child, Mary Genevieve, born May 30, 1899. Mr. Maher is a member of the Catholic church of Russell and of the K. C. and M. W. A. lodges.

PAUL FRUKE (1891) was born in Hardin county, Iowa, August 23, 1890. He is the son of Frederick and Wilhelmina (Blossy) Fruke, who came to this country in 1881. The parents were born near Rugenwalde, Germany.

The Fruke family, coming to the United States in 1881, settled in Iowa. In 1891, when Paul was one year of age, the family moved to Lyon county and located on the southwest quarter of section 24, Shelburne township, where they lived during the next four years. The father then bought the northeast quarter of section 25, which has since been the home of our subject.

Paul is one of seven children. The others are Bertha, Charles, Minnie, August, Ernest and Mary. The father died July 30, 1909, after the family had made their home on the Lyon county farm on

the northeast quarter of section 25. Mrs. Fruke died May 25, 1910.

After the death of Paul's father he and his sister Mary bought the home farm, which they now own, and of which Paul has the active management.

REV. PAUL SCHERF (1905) is the pastor of the German Lutheran church of Balaton. He is a native of Germany and was born in Lichtenstein March 21, 1871, a son of Herman and Caroline (Heuchler) Scherf, both of whom are deceased.

Our subject received his early education in the land of his nativity, where he attended school until fourteen years of age. He then worked at the cabinet-maker's trade until nineteen years of age. In August, 1890, our subject came to America and located at Springfield, Illinois, where he entered the Concordia Seminary as a student. He was graduated from the latter institution in June, 1895, and then came to Minnesota, locating at Fairmont, where he had accepted the pastorate of St. John's German Lutheran Church. He served as pastor of the latter church until January, 1905.

The latter date marks the arrival of Rev. Scherf to Lyon county. He located at Balaton, where he has since served as pastor of St. Peter's German Lutheran Church.

On February 17, 1898, occurred the marriage of Rev. Scherf to Anna Ritz, a native of Illinois. She was born March 31, 1875. Rev. and Mrs. Scherf are the parents of the following children: Herman, Helen, Martin, Arthur and Harold. One child, Gustaf Adolph, died in infancy.

WALTER O. BREMER (1903) is one of Amiret township's farmers. He engages extensively in stock raising and makes a specialty of Shorthorn cattle and Duroc-Jersey hogs. Mr. Bremer also is a breeder of Belgian draft horses.

The subject of this sketch was born in Germany February 17, 1887. He is a son of Andrew and Dorothy (Else) Bremer, both of whom are living in New Ulm, Minnesota. The family came to America in 1893 and located in Big Stone county,

South Dakota, where they lived three years before moving to Iowa and later to Minnesota.

Walter was only six years old when he came to America. His school education was begun in South Dakota and finished while the family were in Iowa. During that time the father purchased land in Lyon county, and in 1903 the family came to this county and located on the farm in Sodus township. That was Walter's home until 1907. The following spring he rented land and engaged in farming for himself in Sodus township. He then moved to the farm he now operates in Amiret township, and has been conducting the place with success.

Clara Pearl Forbes, a daughter of Isaac and Etta (Brown) Forbes, became the wife of Walter Bremer September 30, 1908, the ceremony being performed in Sodus township. To this union two children have been born: Donald, born August 19, 1909, and Dorothy, born May 23, 1911. Mrs. Bremer's parents were pioneer residents of Lyon county and are now living in Amiret township.

ANTON VAN UDEN (1892) is one of the big farmers of Westerheim township and one of its influential citizens. He owns 320 acres of land on sections 21, 22 and 16 and farms it all, making a specialty of feeding cattle and hogs. The home place is the northeast quarter of section 21.

The gentleman whose name heads this sketch was born in Holland December 6, 1870. He is one of a family of nine children, the others being Herman, John, Henry, Berdina, Mary, Annie, Christine and Gertie. His father, John Van Uden, died in 1907 at the age of seventy years; his mother, Johanna (Hermesen) Van Uden, lives with a daughter in Ghent.

In his native land Anton Van Uden secured his education and made his home until past twenty-one years old. In 1892 he came with his parents to America and direct to Lyon county. Until 1906 he lived in Grandview township, conducting his father's farm; then he purchased his Westerheim township farm, and he has since made his home thereon.

Mr. Van Uden was married in Ghent May 9, 1906, to Mary Hennen. She was born in Holland and is a daughter of Arnold Hennen. They have four children, Annie, John, Hubert and Caroline. Mr. and Mrs. Van Uden are members of the Catholic church of Ghent.

PETER F. KELLY (1903) is the owner of the Monarch Saloon in Tracy. He is a native of Goodhue county, Minnesota, where he was born June 3, 1875, and is a son of the late James Kelly. The latter was born in Ireland, came to America in the early seventies, and located in Goodhue county. Later he moved to Swift county, where he died.

At the age of three years Peter accompanied his father to Swift county and grew to manhood on his father's homestead. When twenty-six years of age, he moved to De Graff, Minnesota, where he conducted a saloon two years. In the spring of 1903 he came to Lyon county and purchased the saloon he now conducts at Tracy from Lindeman & Peterson. Mr. Kelly owns a fine farm in Swift county.

On June 11, 1901, at De Graff, occurred the marriage of Mr. Kelly to Annie C. Heimer, a native of Adams, Minnesota. They are the parents of six children: Evelyn, Lawrence, Eugene, Peter, Leo and Francis.

CHARLES DONNELLY (1907), who owns and farms a 214-acre farm on sections 4 and 3, Nordland township, has been an actual resident of Lyon county only a few years, but since the early days he has lived just over the line in Yellow Medicine county. He has a good farm and is a successful agriculturist.

County Derry, Ireland, is the birthplace of Mr. Donnelly and he was born in 1847. His parents, Alexander and Ann (Larkin) Donnelly, are both buried in the old country. Charles attended school until twelve years of age and until he was twenty-two worked on his father's farm. He came to America in the spring of 1869 and for the next twelve years worked in a stove factory in the city of Philadelphia.

Mr. Donnelly came West in 1882,

bought land near St. Leo, in Yellow Medicine county, and engaged in farming there until the fall of 1907. Then, having bought his present farm in Nordland township, he moved to his new home and has since been engaged in its management. For ten years he served as town clerk of Burton township, Yellow Medicine county. He is a member of the Catholic church of Minneota.

Mary Campbell, also a native of Ireland, became the wife of Mr. Donnelly in 1874. Ten children have been born to them, of whom eight are living. Their names are as follows: Anna (in religion, Sister Sunniva), of St. Paul; Levina, at home; Rose, deceased; Sallie, of Westby, Montana; Mary, at home; Margaret, of Philadelphia; Kate, deceased; Theresa (in religion, Sister Norbert), of St. Paul; Robert and Charles, at home.

NELS CHRISTIAN SORESENSEN (1909) owns and farms the northwest quarter of section 31, Shelburne township, in the extreme southwestern corner of Lyon county.

He was born near Alborg, Denmark, May 3, 1880, and spent his boyhood days in the land of his nativity. He attended the public schools until fourteen years of age and then worked on the farm three years. At the age of seventeen he began working at the blacksmith's trade and was so engaged three and one-half years in the old country.

Mr. Sorensen came to America in 1900 and made his first home in Franklin county, Iowa. There he worked at his trade and at other lines of work five years. He worked at his trade in Omaha, Nebraska, one and one-half years, at Arlington, Nebraska, six months, and at Omaha again one year. In 1908 Mr. Sorensen moved to Ruthton, Minnesota, conducted a shop a year and a half, and then turned farmer. It was in 1909 that he located on his farm in Lyon county. Besides general farming Mr. Sorensen engages in stock raising, making a specialty of Shorthorn cattle and Poland China hogs.

The parents of our subject are Lars P. and Ingeborg (Nelson) Sorensen. They came to America in 1902, lived in Franklin county, Iowa, five years, farmed a few

years in Lyon county, and on May 2, 1911, moved to Mille Lacs county, where they now reside.

Nels Sorensen was married in Pipestone August 8, 1908, to Lena Paulson. She was born in the house in which she now lives on July 5, 1892. Her parents, Jess and Christine (Jacobson) Paulson, settled in Lyon county in 1880 and resided on a farm in Shelburne township until they removed to Ruthton in the spring of 1911. Mr. and Mrs. Sorensen have two children: Evelyn Eleanor, born November 20, 1909; and Irene Beatrice, born March 24, 1911.

WILLIAM E. WATKINS (1901) has been conducting the farm on section 29, Amiret township, since he purchased the place in 1901. He is a well-to-do farmer and raises Durham cattle and Duroc-Jersey hogs for market.

William Watkins was born in Green county, Wisconsin, November 17, 1865. He is a son of John H. and Eliza (Griffith) Watkins, natives of England and Wales, respectively. The parents came to the United States and settled in Green county, where they engaged in farming. William was brought up a farmer boy and received his education in the country schools. He afterward helped on the father's farm until he was twenty-one years of age. He then commenced to work out, and in the fall months he ran a threshing rig. He threshed four falls in Minnesota prior to moving to the state in 1901.

In that year young Watkins came to Lyon county and bought the north half of the northeast quarter of section 29, Amiret township, where he has since resided. He has improved the place, has a comfortable home, and is now the owner of a valuable 240-acre farm.

The ceremony which joined in marriage William E. Watkins and Nettie Shaver was performed at Tracy November 15, 1900. She was born in Lyon county November 8, 1881, and is a daughter of Edward and Emma (Flick) Shaver, of Clifton township. Mr. and Mrs. Watkins are the parents of the following children: John E., born January 26, 1902; Lyle, born June 15, 1904; Leslie (deceased), born Novem-

ber 5, 1906; Persey, born October 24, 1908; and Ruth, born December 21, 1910. Mr. Watkins is a member of the Modern Woodmen lodge.

ELMER JOHNSON (1906). One of the young farmers of Coon Creek township is Elmer Johnson, who has resided in Lyon county the past six years. He is a native of Iowa and was born in Pocahontas county September 27, 1884, a son of Moody and Matilda Johnson, the former a native of Sweden and the latter of Norway.

Our subject resided with his parents in Iowa, attending school and assisting his father on the farm, until 1906, when he came to Lyon county. The first year in Lyon county was spent working at farm labor, after which he rented land near Florence for two years. He then rented the farm he now operates, the southwest quarter of section 33, Coon Creek township. Besides general farming, he raises a great number of cattle and hogs.

At Pipestone, Minnesota, February 15, 1906, Mr. Johnson was married to Ida Johnson, a native of Murray county and a daughter of Nels and Carline (Larson) Johnson, both natives of Sweden. Mrs. Elmer Johnson was born August 16, 1887. To this union have been born two children: Edith, born March 25, 1907; Roy, born June 5, 1908.

MATHIAS O. BUE (1910), a Cottonwood photographer, was born in Norway March 5, 1889. In his native country he received a common school education and began to learn the photographer's business. He came to America in January, 1907, and located at Granite Falls. For a time he engaged in farm work and amateur photography and for a short time worked in a gallery at Granite Falls. In April, 1910, Mr. Bue located in Cottonwood and bought the gallery of A. N. Hopland.

Our subject is the son of Ole and Johanna (Hagge) Bue, who reside in Norway. There are seven children in the family, named as follows: Hans, Knute and Mathias O., who are in America; Maria, Anton, Ole and Margaret, who live in the old country.

ANDREW OLSON (1909), a Coon Creek township farmer, was born in Skanna, Sweden, June 27, 1878, and is a son of Ole and Christina (Enbon) Anderson, of Krageholm, Skanna, Sweden. Andrew attended school in his native land until fourteen years of age. He also attended the Pullman School in Chicago after coming to the United States.

May 21, 1901, Mr. Olson came to America, locating at Chicago, where he worked in Johnson's chair factory for a short time. He then secured employment from the Pullman Car Company as a carpenter, working eight years. In 1908 he purchased the farm he now owns and operates, the southeast quarter of section 16, Coon Creek township, and moved to the place in the spring of 1909. He has made a great many improvements upon the place. He raises some stock, including grade cattle, Poland China hogs and Plymouth Rock chickens. He is a member of the Swedish Lutheran church. Mr. Olson has been very successful since coming to Lyon county.

Mr. Olson was married on June 1, 1903, to Elna Nelson, a daughter of Nels and Elna (Anderson) Martinson, of Skanna, Sweden. She was born November 26, 1878. Mr. and Mrs. Olson have two children: Edith Caroline, born February 24, 1904, and Roy Herbert, born April 28, 1907.

Mrs. Olson has two brothers and one sister, namely: John Nelson, of St. Louis, Missouri; Martin Nelson, of Skanna, Sweden; Mrs. Nels Hallen, of Chicago, Illinois. Mr. Olson has one sister, Mrs. Andrew Olson, of Skanna, Sweden.

PRUDENT B. MENARD (1902), of the job department of the News-Messenger office in Marshall, was born in Kankakee county, Illinois. His parents, in company with many other Kankakee county farmers, moved from Illinois in 1902 and located on a farm in Lyon county. Joel A. Menard purchased a large farm near Marshall, but the family have made their home in town.

Our subject attended the public schools in Marshall several years and while yet a student commenced learning the printer's trade in the job office of Elmer A. Hukee. He was

later employed in the job office of George Chamberlain and in the newspaper plant of C. C. Whitney. During the summer and fall of the year Mr. Menard was employed by the F. E. Murphy Auto Company of Minneapolis, and in November of that year he returned to Marshall and in company with H. E. Persons operated a job printing office until April, 1912, when he accepted his present position with C. C. Whitney in the News-Messenger office.

Joel A. Menard and Emma M. Menard are the parents of six living children, of whom Prudent is the eldest. The other children are Clara, Rachel, Andrew, Hugo and Virgil.

HECTOR A. MARCOTTE (1900) is a farmer and land owner of Sodus township. He was born in Cloud county, Kansas, August 24, 1884. His parents are Edward and Josephine (Brosseau) Marcotte, natives of Kankakee, Illinois. Hector received his schooling in the district schools of Cloud county.

When sixteen years of age our subject accompanied his parents to Lyon county and resided with them until 1911, when he rented the farm he now lives on, the east half of the southwest quarter of section 6, Sodus township. He owns and farms in partnership with his father the west half of section 5, Sodus township. Mr. Marcotte engages extensively in stock raising and is a successful farmer. He is a member of the Catholic church and the M. W. A. lodge.

At Marshall, April 20, 1910, occurred the marriage of Mr. Marcotte to Helga Davidson, a native of Marshall, born May 3, 1883. She is a daughter of John and Emma (Rafuson) Davidson, natives of Iceland. The mother died in 1898, and the father lives in Marshall. Mr. and Mrs. Marcotte have one child, Fern M., born May 30, 1911.

GUST NELSON (1907), Rock Lake township farmer, was born in Motolo, Sweden, June 9, 1862. His parents, Anders P. and Matilda Nelson, are deceased, the father having passed away in the old country and the mother in New York City.

Gust was a student of the public schools until fifteen years old and thereafter until 1881 he worked at farm labor in his native land. In June of the last named year Mr.

Nelson crossed the sea, worked in a blacksmith shop in New York City one year, was in Chicago for a time, and then located in Ida county, Iowa, where he engaged in farming eighteen years. Mr. Nelson then bought land in Murray county, Minnesota, and resided on the farm until the fall of 1907. At that time he came to Lyon county and has since farmed the southeast quarter of section 17, Rock Lake township. He engages in stock raising as well as grain farming and has been successful. He is a stockholder of the Farmers Elevator Company of Lake Wilson.

Mr. Nelson was married in 1890 to Anna Matilda Larson, who was born in Sweden June 9, 1863. They have two children, Albert and Ellen (Mrs. Albin W. Nelson), both of Rock Lake township.

ARTHUR GARROW (1884) is engaged in tending bar for V. L. LaVoy at Marshall. He was born at Faller, Indiana, January 5, 1879. He is the son of Frank and Mary (Danderand) Garrow, the former a native of Canada and the latter of Indiana. They settled in Indiana, in 1884 came to Lyon county, and now reside in Lake Marshall township. They are the parents of the following seven children: Arthur, Frank, Wilford, Fred, George, Ida and Louise.

When five years of age, Arthur accompanied his parents to Lyon county and located in Marshall, where he has since resided. For several years after reaching maturity, our subject operated traction engines during threshing seasons. Then he entered the employ of the Marshall Tile & Sidewalk Company and engaged in the laying of sidewalks for about three years. Later he was employed by John Sturgeon in the hitch barn, for whom he worked over three years, and afterwards he worked three months for William Thorburn. In the early part of 1911 he entered the employ of his brother-in-law, V. L. LaVoy, as bartender, a position he has since held.

Mr. Garrow was married in Marshall May 11, 1910, to Stella May Snapp, a native of Kentucky. They are the parents of one son, Everett Charles Garrow, born June 22, 1911.

SAMUEL McDANIEL (1904) is one of the prosperous farmers of Island Lake township. He has been in the county about eight years and farms the west half of section 9.

Mr. McDaniel is a son of Robert and Sinda (Detrice) McDaniel, natives of Indiana and Tennessee, respectively, and was born in Harrison county, Indiana, May 23, 1881. Samuel lived with his parents in Indiana until 1899, during which time he received his schooling. In the last named year he started out in life for himself and went to Leroy county, Illinois, where he worked at farm labor two years.

After the brief period spent in Illinois, young McDaniel went to Nobles county, Minnesota, and worked on a farm two years. He located in Lyon county in 1904, rented land near Minneota two years, and in 1906 rented his present place. He raises considerable stock and has found this industry to be a profitable venture in the conduct of his farm.

The marriage of our subject to Irene Hurd occurred in Minneota February 28, 1906, and to this union three children have been born, Beatrice, Adrian and Orvil. Mrs. McDaniel was born in Iowa and is a daughter of Alfus and Ellen (Palmer) Hurd, natives of New York and England, respectively, and now residents of Island Lake township.

ISAAC BUGHER (1905) is the proprietor of an auto and horse livery at Garvin. Until 1905 he was actively engaged in farming; then he retired and moved to Garvin, engaging in his present business in April, 1911.

Mr. Bugher's parents were Illinois people. He was born in Henry county, Illinois, February 3, 1862, a son of Robert and Elizabeth (Hillard) Bugher, neither of whom is now living. Isaac Bugher grew to young manhood and received his education in Illinois and moved to Iowa with his parents when he was nineteen years old. There he resided until 1900, farming for himself after he became of age. In 1900 Mr. Bugher journeyed to Murray county, Minnesota, buying land and farming until 1905. That year he gave up active work and moved to Garvin. Mr. Bugher prospered on his farm and has been enjoying a lively business in his present pursuit.

Our subject was married in 1883 to Nettie

Ingram, a Wisconsin girl. To them were born the following children: Alpheus, Frank, Marietta (deceased), Archie and Lila. Mr. Bugher's second marriage was to Ida Frost, a native of Germany. To this union one child, Vernice, has been born.

P. A. LINDSTROM (1904), Coon Creek township farmer, was born in Sweden February 8, 1863, a son of John and Mary (Peterson) Carlson. He attended school and grew to manhood in the land of his birth, where he resided until twenty years of age. At that age he came to the United States and located in Chicago, where he worked ten years for the Pullman Car Company. He then moved to Redwood county, Minnesota, where he purchased 160 acres of land and farmed until he sold and moved to Lyon county.

Nineteen hundred four is the date of Mr. Lindstrom's appearance in Lyon county, at which time he purchased 240 acres on section 28, Coon Creek township, which he still owns and operates. In addition to general farming, he raises some stock, including Black Polled Angus cattle and Poland China hogs. Mr. Lindstrom was justice of the peace in Coon Creek township four years.

On October 1, 1887, at Chicago, occurred the marriage of Mr. Lindstrom to Caroline Johnson, a native of Sweden, born March 1, 1858. Mr. and Mrs. Lindstrom are the parents of three children, Alma, Walter B. and Esther E. Walter is now attending Agriculture School at St. Anthony Park.

JOHN WILLIAM FROELICH (1908) is a farmer and thresher of Eidsvold township, residing a short distance north of Taunton. Although he has had his official residence in Lyon county only a few years, he was brought up just over the line in Yellow Medicine county and has a wide acquaintance in northwestern Lyon county.

His parents are Charles G. and Anna (Horn) Froehlich. They located in Yellow Medicine county in 1889, bought land there, and made their home there until their removal to Hamel, Minnesota, in February, 1911.

Our subject was born in the city of Minneapolis March 18, 1884, and when five years

old he moved with the family to Southwestern Minnesota. He was educated in the Yellow Medicine county public schools and worked for his father on the farm and in the threshing business until 1908. That year he engaged in farming on his own account on section 6, Eidsvold township. He farms a quarter section of land, raises some stock, and in partnership with his father conducts a threshing machine during the fall months. He has had thirteen years' experience as a thresher.

Mr. Froehlich was married in Burton township, Yellow Medicine county, April 10, 1906, to Freda Oetzmänn. She was born in Onawa county, Iowa, July 20, 1887. They have three children: Bernard, born August 24, 1907; Esther, born June 28, 1909; and Elmer, born April 14, 1911. Mr. and Mrs. Froehlich are members of the German Lutheran church and he was road overseer of his district one term.

EDWIN S. RICH (1906) is the station agent at Garvin for the Northwestern railroad and a dealer in hay of that village. He was born at Baraboo, Wisconsin, June 29, 1870, and spent his young manhood on a farm. He began his railroad career when twenty-one years of age as baggageman for the Northwestern road at Wonewoc, Wisconsin.

Ever since he took that employment Mr. Rich has been with the same company, as station agent since his first position. Prior to taking charge of the Garvin station in 1906 he was agent at various stations in Wisconsin, the Dakotas and Minnesota. He is the proprietor of the Garvin Hay Company and in 1910 shipped over 300 cars of hay. He owns a home in Garvin.

Mr. Rich is married and has four children, Rodney, Edna, Esther and Alic. He is a member of the Modern Woodmen lodge.

The parents of our subject are Alfred and Josie (Hazelstine) Rich, now residing in Sauk county, Wisconsin. His father was born in London, England, came to America in a sailing vessel when a young man, and for a number of years lived in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. During the war he served in the navy and as a member of a Wisconsin infantry regiment. After the war he was engaged for a number of years as a stage

driver on the western frontier. The mother of our subject was born in Walworth county, Vermont. Of the family there are eight living children: William A., Edwin S., Mrs. C. H. Hall, Robert M., Colonel F., Orlando S. and Flora B.

HENRY PATNEAUDE (1900) is the owner of one of Vallers township's fine quarter sections, his farm being located on the northwest quarter of section 25. He has a well-improved farm, a comfortable home, and is prospering from his farm's returns and from his quite extensive stock raising.

Illinois is the native state of the subject of this sketch, and he was born in Iroquois county November 8, 1855. His parents, Eugene and Julia (Blain) Patneau, were natives of Canada and were early settlers in Iroquois county. Henry was born and brought up on the farm and received his schooling in the district. He remained on the home farm until the death of his parents and then sold out and came to Lyon county in 1900. He purchased 200 acres on section 25 and has since lived on the place.

The ceremony which united Henry Patneau and Mary Adams in the holy bonds of matrimony was performed in L'Erable, Illinois, October 4, 1880. Mrs. Patneau was born in that place January 6, 1861, and is a daughter of Frank and Matilda (Marcotte) Adams, natives of Illinois and Canada, respectively. Five children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Patneau, their names being Wilford, Celia, Pearl, who is now a Sister of St. Paul; Edward and Felician. Our subject and his wife are members of the Catholic church.

A. O. HOVDENVEN (1875), for the past fourteen years cashier of the Cottonwood State Bank, is one of the prominent business men of the city. Mr. Hovdesven was one of the organizers of the Cottonwood Hardware Company, one of the large firms of the county, and with A. E. Anderson was at the head of the business until January, 1912. He helped organize the company in 1905 that erected the large two-story brick building in which the company has its quarters.

Our subject was born in Norway June 18,

1860. His parents were Ole A. Hovdesven and Marn Hovdesven. When the subject of our sketch was seven years of age the family came to this country, locating in Dane county, Wisconsin, and residing on a farm until moving to Lyon county in 1875.

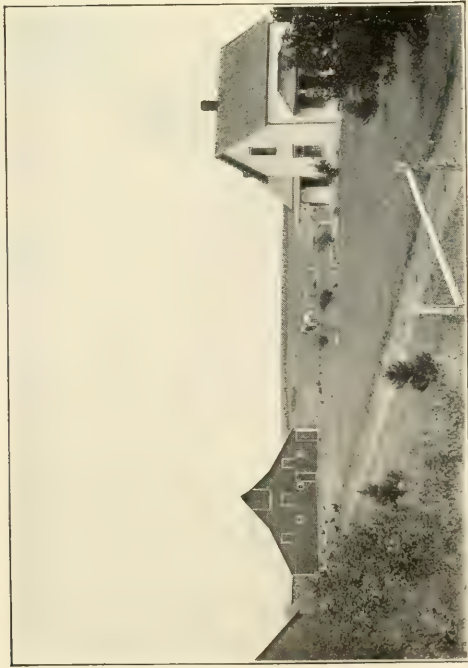
The Hovdesvens were among the pioneers when they came to the county and took a homestead on the southeast quarter of section 6, Vallers township, and a tree claim on the northwest quarter of section 8, of the same township. At that time there were only three families living between the Hovdesven homestead and the town of Marshall. Their only neighbors were Johannes Anderson, Ole Broughton and Ole O. Brenna. Messrs. Anderson and Broughton are still living on the river in Vallers township. The old postoffice of Brenner took its name from the fact that it was located on Ole Brenna's farm. The elder Hovdesven lived on the homestead until his death in 1898, at the advanced age of seventy-nine years.

A. O. Hovdesven lived with his parents during his youth, helping with the farm work and later buying the tree claim which his father had taken upon his arrival to Lyon county. There the young man resided up to the time he moved to Cottonwood in 1897.

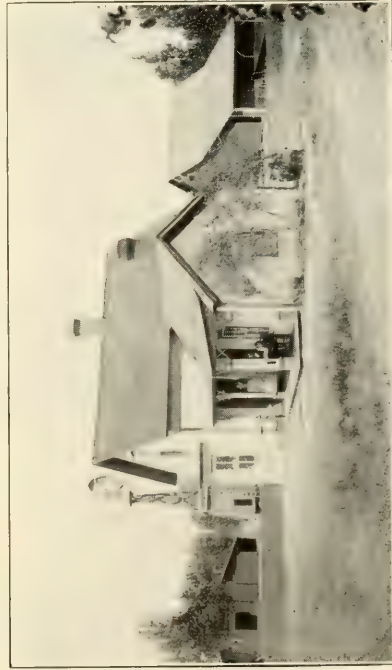
It was while Mr. Hovdesven was still on the farm that he was married to Emillie Sven, of Chippewa county, Minnesota. The marriage occurred June 21, 1888. Miss Sven is a native of Wisconsin. The Hovdesvens have four children: Orvin, a student at the University of Minnesota; Elmer, a student at St. Olaf College, Northfield, Minnesota; Myrtle, a high school student of Cottonwood; and Evelyn, aged eleven.

Since moving to Cottonwood Mr. Hovdesven has been called upon to serve in various official capacities. He is president of the Village Council and president of the Board of Education. He was one of the organizers of the school district. Mr. Hovdesven has a brother, Andrew O. Anderson, who lives in Vallers township, and another brother, C. O. Anderson, who is an attorney in Arizona.

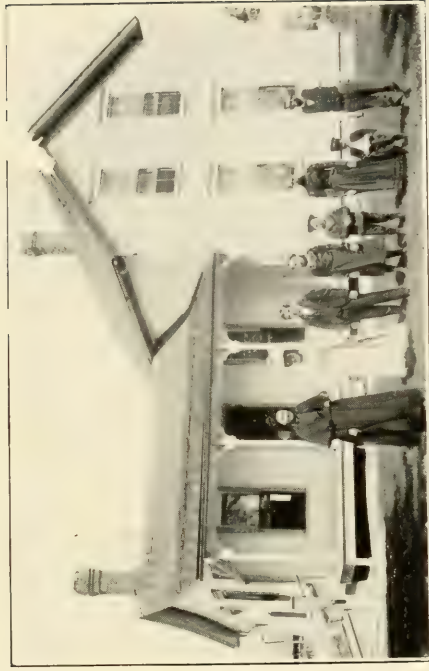
JASPER A. CARON (1894), of Vallers township, was born in Kankakee county, Illinois, March 6, 1887. He is a son of Joseph and Mary (Dandurand) Caron, also resi-



HOME OF MR. AND MRS. OLIVER A. KILLIUS  
Known as the Star Farm of Sodus Township.



HOME OF H. P. SANDEN  
On His Farm Adjoining the Village of Florence.



OLD HOME OF HENRY PATNEAUDE  
In Iroquois County, Illinois, Where He Was Born and  
Brought Up.



HOME OF THE STANDARD LUMBER COMPANY.  
AMIRET



dents of Vallers township. They were born in Canada, settled in Illinois when children, and have lived in Lyon county since 1894.

Jasper was seven years old when the family moved to the county. For two years his father farmed rented land near Ghent and then moved to the southeast quarter of section 15, Vallers, a farm he had bought previous to coming to the county. On that farm Jasper grew to manhood and in the nearby district school he received his education. He resided on the home farm with his parents until the fall of 1911; then he moved to his own farm, which is improved with new buildings. He received the southeast quarter of section 28 from his father and later bought eighty acres on section 33.

Mr. Caron was married in Marshall September 11, 1900, to Emma Grandpre, who was born in the city of Chicago May 27, 1881. Her parents, Victor and Louise (Lavoie) Grandpre, were born in Illinois and are now residents of Fairview township. Mr. and Mrs. Caron have three children: Armand, born June 26, 1901; Irven, born August 11, 1903; and Lorine, born July 12, 1907. The family are members of the Catholic church and Mr. Caron holds membership in the Modern Woodmen lodge.

MANNIE G. ALLEN (1910) has been a farmer in Fairview township since December, 1910. He was born in Richeson county, Nebraska, October 15, 1882. His father was a farmer, and the first eight years of the lad's life were spent on the farm and he commenced to attend the country schools. When the family moved to the town of Bordeaux the boy continued his education in the village school and helped his father, who had established a store. Until twenty-three years of age young Allen remained at home. He then went out into the world to make his own way.

His first work was at Kansas City, where he was employed one year in the stock yards. From there he went to St. Joseph, and there learned the barber trade, working at that occupation three years. The year 1910 saw the beginning of Mr. Allen's farming career, when he came to Lyon county and located in Fairview township, where he has since remained.

The marriage of Mannie G. Allen and Lucy

Smith occurred at Marshall in October, 1910. She is a daughter of Thomas E. and Kate Smith, natives of Kansas. Mrs. Allen was born in Bordeaux, Nebraska, July 8, 1888. Mr. and Mrs. Allen have one son, Ralph.

The parents of our subject are Charles Allen and Alice (Spickler) Allen. The latter is a native of Illinois, and both the parents are now living with a son in Zion City, that state.

THOMAS C. JONES (1901) is the owner of the north half of the northeast quarter of section 17, Lyons township. He has resided in Lyon county eleven years. Thomas Jones was born in Wales February 13, 1854, and at fourteen years of age came to the United States with his parents and located in Ohio. There he worked in the coal mines four years and at Danville, Illinois, until 1881.

In the year last mentioned our subject, accompanied by his brother, John, immigrated to Redwood county, Minnesota. He worked at farm labor several years, after which he spent ten years as a collector, being employed by John H. Bowers, an attorney at Redwood Falls. In 1901 Mr. Jones came to Lyon county, purchased his Lyons township farm, and has resided there since. He was clerk of Lyons township eight years, treasurer one year and clerk of school district No. 69 for six years. Mr. Jones has stock in the Farmers Elevator Company of Russell and is secretary of the company. He holds membership in the Modern Woodmen and Modern Brotherhood of America lodges.

Mr. Jones was united in marriage to Rose A. White at Renville, Minnesota. Mrs. Jones was born in Lesueur county, Minnesota, September 21, 1864, a daughter of Nathan D. and Urane (Frazer) White, natives of New York. During the Sioux outbreak of August, 1862, Mrs. White was taken captive by the Indians and was held six months before being released. Mr. and Mrs. Jones are the parents of the following named children: William N., Evan C., T. Harold, Myrtle U.

EDWARD LeCUYER (1897) is the proprietor of the Duluth House, of Marshall. He is a native of Cloud county, Kansas, and was born August 30, 1880. He lived on the

farm of his parents in his native county until seventeen years of age and then moved with them to Lyon county. He lived on the farm in Clifton township for a few years and then went to Ward county, North Dakota, and in the village of Tagus conducted a hotel two years, or until 1910. In October of that year he moved to Marshall, rented the Duluth House, and has since conducted it. He has improved the hostelry and enjoys a good patronage.

The parents of our subject are Fortuna and Nancy (Marcotte) LeCuyer, natives of Kankakee, and Bourbonnais, Illinois, respectively. They moved to Kansas about forty years ago and homesteaded in Clay county, later moving to Cloud county, where they resided twenty-four years. They farmed in Lyon county four years, lived in Red Lake eighteen months, farmed in North Dakota a few years, and in September, 1910, moved back to Lyon county and are now engaged in farming in Grandview township. There are ten children living of this family, as follows: Alfred, Alma, Ada, Medrick, Marie, Dora, George, Blanch, Eli and Edward. All live in Lyon county except Alma, who is now Mrs. Joseph St. Peter and resides in North Dakota, and Dora, who is now Mrs. Alex Lawson and lives at Grove City, Minnesota.

Edward LeCuyer was married in North Dakota July 25, 1907, to Sarah Peterson, who was born in Blooming Prairie, Steele county, Minnesota. They have one child, Raymond, born August 16, 1909.

PETER CHRISTENSEN (1909) is one of the more recent additions to this farming community, having been a resident of Shelburne township only about two years. In November, 1909, he moved here from South Dakota and purchased 136 acres on the south half of section 30. He engages successfully in cattle raising besides general farming.

Our subject was born in Sjaland, Denmark, January 16, 1871, his parents being Peter and Sophia Christensen. The mother is still living in Denmark. Peter received his early education in Denmark in the common schools. At the age of fourteen he discontinued his school work and hired out at farm labor for the next four years. In 1889 Peter came to America and located in

Buena Vista county, Iowa, where he worked as a farm hand until 1896. February 25 of that year he married, at Newell, Iowa, Augusta Capion, and soon afterward engaged in farming for himself in Buena Vista county, making that his home for seven years. In 1903 the family moved to Lake county, South Dakota, from which place they recently came to Lyon county.

Mrs. Peter Christensen was born May 3, 1875, her parents being Chris and Bolettie (Olsen) Capion. Her father lives at the old home in Newell, Iowa; her mother died September 23, 1905.

Three children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Christensen: Albert Holger, born February 12, 1901; Eva Eldona, born August 30, 1905; and Alvin Wilbur, born April 14, 1910.

Peter Christensen has three brothers living in this country: Hans, of Newell, Iowa; Chris P., of Chicago; and Nels C., of Dagmer, Montana. Mrs. Christensen has three sisters living, all of whom are married. Ida Matilda (Mrs. Hans Mathisen) and Fannie Berthalena (Mrs. Niel Mayland) reside in Newell, Iowa, and Mamie Wilmine (Mrs. James Haahr), at Sioux Falls, South Dakota.

LARS BERG (1902), the owner of 160 acres on section 27 and a well-to-do farmer of Lucas township, was born in Valders, Norway, October 27, 1864. He is a son of Lars and Ingeborg Berg, of whom the former is living in Norway and the latter is deceased.

Our subject attended the common schools in Norway until fourteen years of age, after which he worked at farm labor in his native land until 1886. In the spring of that year young Berg came to America and located in Monona county, Iowa, where he resided about eleven years, and then moved to Clay county, Minnesota, where he purchased land and lived until 1902, pursuing the occupation of a farmer.

It was in the spring of 1902 that Mr. Berg came to Lyon county and purchased the south half of the south half of section 27, Lucas township. On that place he has since made his home and devoted himself to general farming and stock raising. He has prospered and his quarter section is one of the fine pieces of real estate in the township.

Mr. Berg was married October 16, 1885, in Norway to Siri Olson. She was born April 25, 1861, and died November 18, 1909. She and Mr. Berg were the parents of eight children, all of whom are living at home with their father. Their names are Louis, Olaf, John, Anna, Lillian, Harry, Clarence and Ida. Mr. Berg is a member of the United Norwegian Lutheran church of Cottonwood.

HECTOR HOFMAN (1900) holds the position of clerk in the Edward Schreiber hardware store in Ghent, and though only recently an employe Mr. Hofman brings to the store business experience of his own and is proving his worth.

Our subject was born in Belgium March 31, 1871, and is a son of Camiel and Constantie (Van Dendacle) Hofman. The former parent is dead and the mother is still a resident of the old country. Hector received a good education in his native land, attending the grade and high schools and later the College of St. Marys in Audenarde, Belgium. His schooling was finished when he was seventeen and for the next twelve years the boy helped his father on the farm.

Coming to America in 1900, Mr. Hofman was employed in a laundry seven months. He then came to Lyon county and worked as a farm hand near Ghent three years and one year as a laborer on the new Catholic church building. The Farmers Elevator Company engaged Mr. Hofman's services and he was grain buyer for that firm the next five years. He resigned his position to investigate the West and for two years our subject conducted an irrigated farm near Fountain, Colorado. He decided that Lyon county was much the better country and returned to Ghent, where he has since been employed in the hardware store.

Mr. Hofman married Louisa De Maeght November 23, 1903, his wife being a native of Belgium. They have six children, Edmund, Herman, Esther, Alfrede, Elvere and Baldwin. Mr. and Mrs. Hofman are members of the Catholic church.

JULIUS SWEEN (1895). Among the prosperous farmers of Westerheim township is Julius Sween, who resides in the

extreme northeastern corner of the precinct. His farm consists of 160 acres in Lyon county and forty acres in Yellow Medicine county, the home place being on section 1, Westerheim.

Julius Sween is a native Minnesotan, having been born in Chippewa county October 20, 1875. His parents, Ole and Mattie Sween, came from Norway in an early day, lived in Wisconsin for a time, and then became residents of Minnesota. They were pioneer residents of Chippewa county and Ole Sween was a homesteader there. They resided there until 1900 and have since made their home in Granite Falls.

Until he was sixteen years of age Julius attended the district schools of his native county. He came to Lyon county in 1895, worked for his brother-in-law two years and then farmed the place for himself four years. In 1901 he became a land owner, having purchased at that time the farm he now conducts. He resided on the place until 1909, then moved to Granite Falls and for three years conducted a garage in partnership with his brother, O. B. Sween. Mr. Sween returned to his farm in March, 1912. He has a well-improved farm and is a successful farmer. He has stock in the Home Telephone Company of Cottonwood. He and his family are members of the Norwegian Lutheran church of Normania township, Yellow Medicine county.

Mr. Sween was married in Yellow Medicine county June 6, 1898, to Emma Severson. She was born in Barron county, Wisconsin, July 24, 1877, a daughter of Andrew O. and Rangneld (Brenden) Severson, former residents of Lyon county. Mrs. Sween's parents sold their Lyon county farm to Mr. Sween, bought land in Yellow Medicine county, and now reside there. Ruby Marion, born April 11, 1900, is the only child of Mr. and Mrs. Sween.

JACOB C. MARSHALL (1906) is the proprietor of the farm on the northwest quarter of section 18, Grandview township. His parents, Jacob Marshall and Elizabeth (Muller) Marshall, were natives of Germany and came to the United States when young, both locating in Erie county,

New York. Shortly after their arrival in this country they were married and lived for many years in Erie county, where they farmed. They were the parents of thirteen children, as follows: Sophia, Maggie, John, Katie, Lizzie, Peter, Annie, Jacob C., Joseph, Alesius, Albert and Dennis. One child, Bertha, died at the age of three years. Mrs. Marshall died in Erie county in 1887, and a few years afterward Mr. Marshall and some of the children moved to Chicago, where the father died in September, 1907.

Jacob C. Marshall was born in East Aurora, Erie county, New York, January 21, 1872. He was educated at an academy in his home county and grew to young manhood on the farm. Two years after his mother's death he moved to Iowa and made that his home until 1901, then moving to Redwood county, Minnesota, and farming five years. It was in 1906 that he came to Lyon county and located in Island Lake township. Mr. Marshall farmed in that township three years and in January, 1909, moved to the place which he now owns.

Our subject married Mary Finnell in Lucan, Minnesota, January 21, 1904. She is a native of Iowa, and she and her husband are the parents of three children, Jacob, Linda E. and John.

ESTEN MYRAN (1892) has been a resident of Shelburne township ever since coming to this country from Norway in 1892, having made Florence his home the greater part of the time. For the period of a year and a half our subject was employed in South Dakota as a farm hand.

The parents of Esten Myran were Svend Myran and Guri Lien, natives of Norway. Born in Opdahl, Trondhjem, Norway, October 12, 1871, our subject lived his early life at home with his people. He attended school for a few years, engaging in the livery business when a boy of only fourteen. He followed that pursuit until twenty years of age, when he decided to seek his fortune in the United States, and the year 1892 found him a resident of Lyon county. Since locating here Mr. Myran has farmed and has prospered. During every fall season he operates a threshing

outfit, of which he is the owner. For two years Mr. Myran was called upon to fill the office of constable of his precinct.

Our subject is a member of the Norwegian Lutheran church and belongs to the Modern Woodmen lodge. He has one brother living in America, John Myran, of Yankton county, South Dakota.

HENRY SAVOIE (1902) is a farmer of Lake Marshall township who has resided in Lyon county for a number of years. He is a native of Cloud county, Kansas, and was born February 14, 1885. He is the son of Mike and Julia (Lagess) Savoie and accompanied them to Lyon county when he was seventeen years of age. His parents rented land in Kansas, and it was during this period that our subject received his early education. Upon their arrival in Lyon county the father rented four hundred acres of land in Lake Marshall township. Henry worked with his father until 1905, when he rented the east half of section 21, Lake Marshall township, where he lived until the spring of 1911. At that time he rented four hundred acres in the same township, where he now lives. Henry's parents were born and raised in Kankakee county, Illinois. They are both of French-Canadian descent.

Besides farming, Mr. Savoie engages extensively in stock raising. He raises Short-horn cattle and Poland China hogs. He is a member of the Catholic church and of the Modern Woodmen lodge.

In Marshall, on January 9, 1906, Mr. Savoie was united in marriage to Emma Paquette, a native of Cloud county, Kansas. Her parents were John and Agnes (Labance) Paquette, who homesteaded land in Kansas in an early day. To this union have been born the following named two children: Fred, born January 11, 1907, died June 4, 1907; Eugene, born November 6, 1908.

WILLIAM JACOB COIL (1909) is a farmer of Eidsvold township and the owner of a 240-acre farm in that precinct, his farm being described as the northeast quarter of section 30 and the north half of the northwest quarter of section 29.

Mr. Coil was born in Broad Ripple, Marion county, Indiana, April 10, 1856. Jacob Conrad Coil and Katherine (Dunahoo) Coil, his parents, died in Indiana in 1878. The father was born in that state in 1818 and the mother in Virginia in 1830. William was brought up on a farm and has engaged in farming all his life. He attended school until twenty-one years of age, worked for his father two years after reaching his majority, and then started out in life for himself.

In Indiana Mr. Coil engaged in farming for a short time and then moved to Champaign county, Illinois, where he purchased land and resided four years. The next twenty years of his life were spent farming in Story county, Iowa, and then for a few years prior to 1909 he was engaged in the same business in Boone county, Iowa. In the spring of 1909 Mr. Coil located on his Eidsvold township farm, which he had purchased the preceding fall and where he has since resided. He raises full-blooded Percheron horses and Poland China hogs.

During his residence in Iowa Mr. Coil was frequently called upon to serve in an official capacity. He is a member of the Methodist church and of the Mystic Workers of the World, holding membership at Boone, Iowa.

William Coil and Mary Katherine Blaze were married in Marion county, Indiana, October 24, 1877. Mrs. Coil was born in Cambridge, Indiana, March 26, 1857. Children have been born to this union as follows: Otto J., of Lincoln county, Minnesota, born September 10, 1878; Mary Katherine (Mrs. Oliver M. Barker), of Algona, Iowa, born March 23, 1880; Bertha Nevada (Mrs. Frank Thomas), of Boone, Iowa, born January 25, 1882; Ira Theodore, of Minneapolis, born February 8, 1885; Leslie, deceased, born February 7, 1887; Isa Lulu, of Minneapolis, born August 11, 1889; Inez, deceased, born June 20, 1892; Virgil B., at home, born July 23, 1895; Vera Theresa, at home, born August 10, 1899.

ROBERT S. MOSS (1905) is the tonorial artist in the village of Russell. He was born at Toronto, Canada, November

20, 1877, a son of Joseph and Kathryn (Smith) Moss, of Hector, Minnesota.

Robert received his education in the places where the Moss family resided during his minority, at Superior, Wisconsin, and Port Huron and Croswell, Michigan, attending school until twenty years of age. He then worked three years as an undertaker at Morg, Wisconsin, when he moved with his parents to Hector, Minnesota, near which place he worked at farm labor three years. Then Robert began learning the barber's trade at Hector, where he worked one year. Cottonwood was the next place to claim him as a resident, and there he worked in a shop three years. Later he bought the Palace barber shop at Russell. Mr. Moss has been successful in his chosen vocation and is a first-class workman, his best advertisement being his pleased customers. He is a member of the Masonic lodge.

The subject of this review was married May 4, 1909, to Mary Carlson, a daughter of Olaf Carlson, of Cottonwood. Mrs. Moss was born near Cottonwood October 12, 1873. They have no children.

JOHN M. PLACE (1902) is a farmer residing on section 20, Coon Creek township, who has lived in Lyon county for the past ten years. He is a native of Pennsylvania and was born in March, 1860, a son of John and Margrette (Feninger) Place, natives of Pennsylvania. John received his schooling and grew to manhood in his native state, locating in McHenry county, Iowa, when nineteen years of age, where he farmed until 1902.

In 1902 our subject came to Lyon county and rented the farm he now operates in Coon Creek township. In addition to farming, he raises considerable stock, including Hereford and Black Polled Angus cattle and Duroc-Jersey hogs. He is a member of the A. O. U. W. lodge.

Mr. Place was married in Iowa to Catherine Kouch, a native of Ohio and a daughter of Christ and Barbara (Curly) Kouch, the former born in Germany and the latter in Pennsylvania. Mr. and Mrs. Place are the parents of the following children: William, Clem, Eva, Ada, Ethel and Annie.

HENRY BRUNS (1910) is the proprietor of the Lyon County Garage at Minneota and conducts an auto livery in connection. He was born in Germany February 9, 1870, and when twelve years old came to this country with his parents and settled in Otoe county, Nebraska. There he lived on the farm with his parents until 1892.

In the year last mentioned Mr. Bruns moved to Murray county, Minnesota, engaged in farming awhile, and then located at Lake Wilson, where he engaged in the blacksmith and machine business. He moved to Minneota in the spring of 1910 and conducted a blacksmith shop one year. Then he built the Lyon County Garage, a 30x60 feet building, equipped it with machinery and tools for repairing, and has since been engaged in that business. Mr. Bruns is an able workman and conducts a model institution.

The parents of our subject were John and Rebecca (Kleinsmidt) Bruns. They came from Germany in 1882 and settled in Nebraska, where Mrs. Bruns died. The father later moved to Murray county, Minnesota, and died there in 1897. Henry Bruns has one brother, Fred, of Otoe county, Nebraska.

The marriage of Henry Bruns to Ellen Heymnes occurred at Lake Wilson, Minnesota, April 20, 1898. Mrs. Bruns is a native of Murray county and a daughter of L. J. Heymnes, a homesteader and early settler of Murray county. Mr. and Mrs. Bruns have one child, Chester. Mr. Bruns is a member of the M. W. A. lodge.

JOHN B. FLINN (1911) is one of Clifton township's farmers and resides on the northwest quarter of section 10. He was born in Lafayette county, Wisconsin, on October 4, 1881. His father and mother were Fred and Mattie (Severson) Flinn, natives of Wisconsin and Norway, respectively. When John was a child the family moved to Cerro Gordo county, Iowa. There the father bought land and for several years engaged in agricultural pursuits. Later he moved to Rockwell, a neighboring village, and the subject of this sketch grew to manhood in Rockwell and finished his education in the public school.

The elder Mr. Flinn opened a livery and feed stable in Rockwell and also conducted a barber shop. John learned the barber's trade and was with his father until 1899, in which year he moved to Minnesota, locating in Lac qui Parle county, where he rented land and farmed until 1911. That year he came to Lyon county and bought the place where he now resides, one of the finest farms in the township. Mr. Flinn has already taken up stock raising in connection with his general farming, and with his good location and his industry seems assured of success.

The subject of this sketch was married in Blue Earth county, Minnesota, August 29, 1906. The young lady he chose for his wife was Carrie Guddal, a daughter of John and Rachel (Swenson) Guddal, natives of Norway and now residents of Blue Earth county. Mrs. Flinn was born June 18, 1882. To this union has been born one child, Erwood, on September 6, 1911. Mrs. Flinn taught school several years before her marriage, in her home county and in Lac qui Parle county.

NELS O. ERICKSON (1910) is a dealer in live stock and farm implements in Florence. He is a native of Sweden, born February 15, 1879, and in company with his parents came to the United States when five months old. The family settled in Union county, South Dakota, where our subject resided until coming to Lyon county in 1910.

The father of our subject died in 1892 and thereafter, in company with the rest of the children, Nels conducted the home farm. He began the struggle of life for himself when sixteen years of age. His first undertaking was farming and stock buying, which he continued in the South Dakota home until he became a resident of Lyon county, which was in August, 1910.

On his arrival in Lyon county, Mr. Erickson purchased the implement house he now owns from H. P. Sanden and immediately installed a complete stock of farm implements, wagons, pumps, automobiles and buggies. He also buys and ships stock and in company with his brother, E. O. Erickson, deals extensively in hay and

straw, which they buy and bale for shipment.

Mr. Erickson's mother was married a second time, to Ole Bergstrom, of Tyler. There are five boys and one girl in the family: Erick, Nels O., Betsy, Jona, Ole and Joe.

FRANK PETERSON (1912) has only recently become a resident of Custer township, locating on the south half of the northeast quarter of section 3 during the month of February, 1912. That farm Mr. Peterson purchased in 1910, at which time he was farming in Redwood county.

In Mercer county, Illinois, Frank Peterson first saw the light of day, on April 12, 1876. His father, Peter Peterson, is a resident of New Windsor, Illinois, and Frank's mother, Lena Peterson, is not living. Frank received his education in Illinois and grew to young manhood on his father's farm. Later he hired out for several years as a farm laborer, and he spent about eight years farming for himself in his native state.

Our subject left Illinois and located in Redwood county, Minnesota, in the spring of 1905, and there he conducted a farm until taking up his residence in Lyon county in 1912. Mr. Peterson has done well since he engaged in farming and seems bound to continue. The Custer farm is valuable land and our subject has a fine home on the place. Besides his general farming, Mr. Peterson is devoting much of his time to stock raising.

EDWIN K. KELLER (1901) is the manager of Richtmyer's pool hall. He is a native of Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, where he was born July 26, 1872. His parents are Edwin S. and Adeline (Kurtz) Keller, both natives of Pennsylvania, who now reside near Holdridge, Nebraska. They are the parents of the following children: Edwin, Clara, Lilly, Mary, Kate, Addie, Charles, Thomas and Ruben.

When six years of age our subject accompanied his parents to Grundy county, Iowa. In 1884 the family moved to Sheridan county, Nebraska, where Edwin resided on his father's farm until reaching

his majority. The next winter he went to Council Bluffs, Iowa, and worked on a fruit farm, being employed there about four years. He then went to York county, Nebraska, where his parents then lived, and resided with them several years. Later he went to Fullerton, Nebraska, and conducted a pool hall until the next year, 1901, when he located in Marshall. Since that time he has been engaged in carpenter work, working in the pool hall, and conducting a threshing rig. He and his brother-in-law, E. W. Richtmyer, own the threshing machine.

Mr. Keller was married in Marshall in December, 1904, to Carrie Sitts, a native of Wisconsin.

FRANK BUSSE (1901) owns and operates the northwest quarter of section 34, Sodus township. He is a native of the Badger State and was born at Burlington May 3, 1877. His parents are John and Mary (Mecklenburg) Busse, natives of Germany. When Frank was seven years of age his parents moved to Sioux county, Iowa. They resided there seven years and then moved to Jerauld county, South Dakota, where the father homesteaded land. Our subject remained with his parents until 1901.

In the latter year the subject of this review came to Lyon county and purchased the farm he now operates in Sodus township. He also engages extensively in stock raising. Mr. and Mrs. Busse are members of the Presbyterian church.

Mr. Busse was married in Clifton township on June 24, 1908, to Myrtle Knieff, a native of Lyon county. She is a daughter of Edward and Sarah (Castle) Knieff, the former a native of Illinois and the latter of Minnesota. Mrs. Busse was born January 28, 1888. Mr. and Mrs. Busse are the parents of one child, Edna, born November 29, 1910.

GEORGE OVERLEE (1908) is proprietor of the East Side Saloon at Tracy. He is a native of the Gopher State and was born in Brown county January 19, 1876, a son of John and Carrie Overlee, natives of Norway. They came to the United States

about forty years ago and located in Brown county, where the father homesteaded land. The mother is dead and the father resides in Lincoln county, Minnesota. There are four children in the family, as follows: Rena, George, Albert and Carl.

George resided in Brown county until eighteen years of age and there received his schooling. He then moved to Redwood county, where he farmed until twenty-six years of age. In 1903 he purchased a saloon at Revere, which he conducted four years, going from there to Arco, where he conducted a saloon. He was in business at Arco six months, when he was burned out. On March 21, 1908, Mr. Overlee came to Lyon county and purchased Peterson Brothers' saloon at Tracy, known as the East Side Saloon.

At Revere, November 28, 1903, Mr. Overlee was married to Mary Hendrickson, a native of Cottonwood county. They are the parents of three children, Clarence, Myrtle and James.

CLAUD DAYTON NELLIS (1908) is a farmer and land owner residing in Lynd township. He is a native of Iowa and was born in Kossuth county July 23, 1880. He is a son of Charles and Harriett Nellis, early residents of Kossuth county. The father was a native of New York and the mother of Canada.

The subject of this review received his early education near Whittemore, Iowa. He worked for his father on the farm until twenty years of age, and after that farmed for himself in Kossuth county until he came to Lyon county in 1908. In 1907 Mr. Nellis purchased the northeast quarter of section 35, Lynd township, which he still owns and operates. He moved to this farm in February, 1908. He raises Duroc-Jersey hogs, Shorthorn cattle and Plymouth Rock chickens.

Mr. Nellis is a member of the Methodist church and he is a Modern Woodman. He is a stockholder of the Farmers Elevator Company of Marshall, is road overseer, and has been constable in Lynd township for two years.

On March 22, 1905, Mr. Nellis was united in marriage to Myrtle Bixby, a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. A. H. Bixby, of Kossuth

county, Iowa. Mrs. Nellis is a native of Iowa and was born July 19, 1882. Previous to her marriage she taught school for seven years in one district. Her parents are natives of Iowa. The father died January 26, 1909; the mother resides at Spirit Lake, Iowa.

Mr. Nellis has three brothers and five sisters living: Edward, Emery, Russell, Myrtle, Maggie, Kate, Etta, Olive. Mrs. Nellis has three brothers and four sisters: Frank, Warren, Charles, Cora, Mabel, Neva, Nellie.

HENRY DeVINCK (1903), a farmer and stock raiser of Lyons township, was born in Belgium March 22, 1862, and spent the first twenty-five years of his life in the land of his nativity. His parents were Henry and Mary (Delobel) DeVinck, both of whom died in the old country. Henry attended school and grew to manhood in Belgium and worked out at farm labor until coming to the United States.

He located, on first coming to this country, at Attica, Indiana, near which place he worked as a farm hand. Upon coming to Lyon county in 1903, he purchased a one-third interest in 240 acres of land in Lyons township, where he still resides. Besides general farming, he raises and sells horses and Duroc-Jersey hogs. Mr. DeVinck is a member of the Catholic church and is director of school district No. 2, an office he has held for eight years.

At Attica, Indiana, October 8, 1892, occurred the marriage of Mr. DeVinck to Mary Phillips, a native of France and a daughter of Fred and Annie (Van Cock) Phillips. The Phillips family came to America in 1889 and settled in Chicago and later in Attica, Indiana. Mr. and Mrs. DeVinck are the parents of the following three children: Mary, born July 8, 1893; Elizabeth, born June 17, 1896; Flora, born January 11, 1900.

JOHN STASSEN (1891), of Lake Marshall township, was born in Belgium January 20, 1868, a son of Louise and Elizabeth (Mulleneers) Stassen. John received his early education and grew to manhood in the land of his nativity. He also served three

years in the Belgian army and resided with his parents until 1891, when he came to America with them.

The family moved to Marshall that year and our subject was employed on farms until 1896, when he married and rented land. In 1908 he rented the 240 acres of land on section 28, Lake Marshall township, where he now resides. In addition to general farming, Mr. Stassen engages in stock raising.

Mr. Stassen was married at Ghent January 26, 1896, to Helen Paradis, a native of Canada. Mr. and Mrs. Stassen are the parents of the following named children: Albert, Laura, Vadeline and Florence.

ARTHUR E. ARNTSON (1909) is an attorney-at-law of Minneota and a graduate of the Law Department of the University of Minnesota. He was born at Cannon Falls, Minnesota, October 10, 1885. In 1887 he accompanied his parents to Red Wing, Minnesota, where he resided until 1909. While residing in that city our subject was graduated from the high school and the University of Minnesota.

The parents of our subject are Emanuel and Nelia (Reid) Arntson, the former a native of Iowa and the latter of Minnesota. They reside at Red Wing and are the parents of five children: Arthur E., Neal, Helen, Evelyn and Florence.

After graduating from the University, our subject was engaged three years in his father's real estate office, having charge of the law and collection department. In 1909 he came to Lyon county and located at Minneota, where he engaged in practice with Bjorn B. and A. B. Gislason. The firm name is Gislason, Arntson & Gislason. The firm also deals in real estate under the name of the Globe Land & Loan Company. Our subject holds membership in the Masonic, Elks, Modern Woodmen and Ancient Order of United Workmen lodges.

BENTON J. COLE (1896), who farms the southeast quarter of section 35, Amiret township, was born in Winona county, Minnesota, January 12, 1883. His father, James H. Cole, was born in Hillsboro, Wisconsin, February 10, 1856, and was married to Hannah

Bryson, a native of Canada, born September 5, 1853. The parents now live in Tracy.

When a child Benton was brought by his parents to Minnesota and the family located near Currie, Murray county, where the father purchased land. Benton spent his youth in that county, went to the district school, and later attended high school at Tracy. In 1896 his father bought the southeast quarter and the south half of the northeast quarter of section 35, Amiret township, Lyon county, and the family moved to the new home. Benton helped on the home farm until 1907, when he rented land in Redwood county, and there he lived until 1912. He then rented the farm of his father, the family having moved to Tracy, and Benton has since conducted the farm.

Mr. Cole was married April 4, 1906, to Clara M. Larson. Clara Larson was born in Lyon county January 26, 1883, and is a daughter of Hans T. and Turi (Gullickson) Larson, natives of Norway. They came to America in 1869 and both died in Lyon county. To Mr. and Mrs. Cole two children have been born: Bernice V., born June 9, 1907, and Helen T., born January 18, 1909.

The Coles are members of the Presbyterian church and Mr. Cole is a member of the A. O. U. W. lodge.

CHRIS MORK (1911) farms the northeast quarter of section 30, Shelburne township. He was born in Lincoln county, South Dakota, November 19, 1876. His father, Halvor Mork, resides near Sioux Falls; his mother, Ingre (Ode) Mork, died March 12, 1906.

When Chris was ten years old the family moved to Minnehaha county, South Dakota. In the public schools of East Sioux Falls he secured his education and after his school days he assisted his father with the work on the farm. He moved to Lyon county in February, 1911, rented the 200-acre farm of Gullick Rogness, and has since been engaged in farming on his own account. Mr. Mork is a member of the Norwegian Lutheran church of Florence.

Gertrude Nelson became the wife of Chris Mork at Sioux Falls on March 11, 1908. She is a native of that city and was born May 3, 1888. Mr. and Mrs. Mork have one child, Alfred Harold, born June 23, 1909.

OSCAR J. ANDERSON (1910), farmer and renter of the northwest quarter of section 21 in the township of Monroe, is a native of Sweden and has made his home in the United States since he was seventeen years of age.

Our subject was born December 1, 1889. His parents, Anders Anderson and Siverina (Bengtson) Anderson, are still living in Sweden. Oscar received his education in the Swedish common schools. In June, 1906, the boy came to America and located in Kankakee county, Illinois. For four years that was his home, and most of the time he found employment at farm labor. It was in April, 1910, that Oscar came to Lyon county, where, after working out one year, he rented the place where he now resides.

On January 30, 1912, in Tracy, Minnesota, occurred the ceremony which joined Oscar Anderson and Mabel Surprenant in the holy bonds of matrimony. Mrs. Anderson is a native of St. George, Kankakee county, Illinois, and was born December 24, 1892. Mr. Anderson is a member of the Swedish Lutheran church.

AXAL L. BLADHOLM (1891) is the senior member of the firm of Bladholm Brothers, proprietors of the Marshall Machine Shops. He was born in Sweden December 10, 1866, the son of Frans O. and Johanna Bladholm.

In his native land Axal learned the machinist's trade and when twenty years of age came to America and located in South Chicago. He worked in a shop there eight months and then took a position as machinist in the shops of the Pullman Car Company. Two years later he accepted a position in the machine shops of Frazer & Chalmers and was employed by that firm until he located in Marshall in May, 1891. He has ever since conducted a machine shop in that city, part of the time in partnership with others and now as a member of the firm of Bladholm Brothers.

In 1903 the brothers added to the shop a steel and concrete bridge building department and installed heavy machinery for that purpose. They do heavy forging and machinery work and manufacture a boiler feed pump of their own design. They have a well equipped shop for the kind of work they do and both brothers are first-class

workmen. They construct from twelve to seventeen bridges a year, among others they have put in being two over the Redwood river in Marshall, one at Minneota over the Yellow Medicine river, one over Three-Mile creek between Marshall and Ghent, and one in Yellow Medicine county over the river of the same name. Bladholm Brothers keep on hand a stock of structural steel for bridge work. They also handle the Glyco babbitt metal, being agents for this territory. Another important device they have recently begun to manufacture is a boiler safety plug.

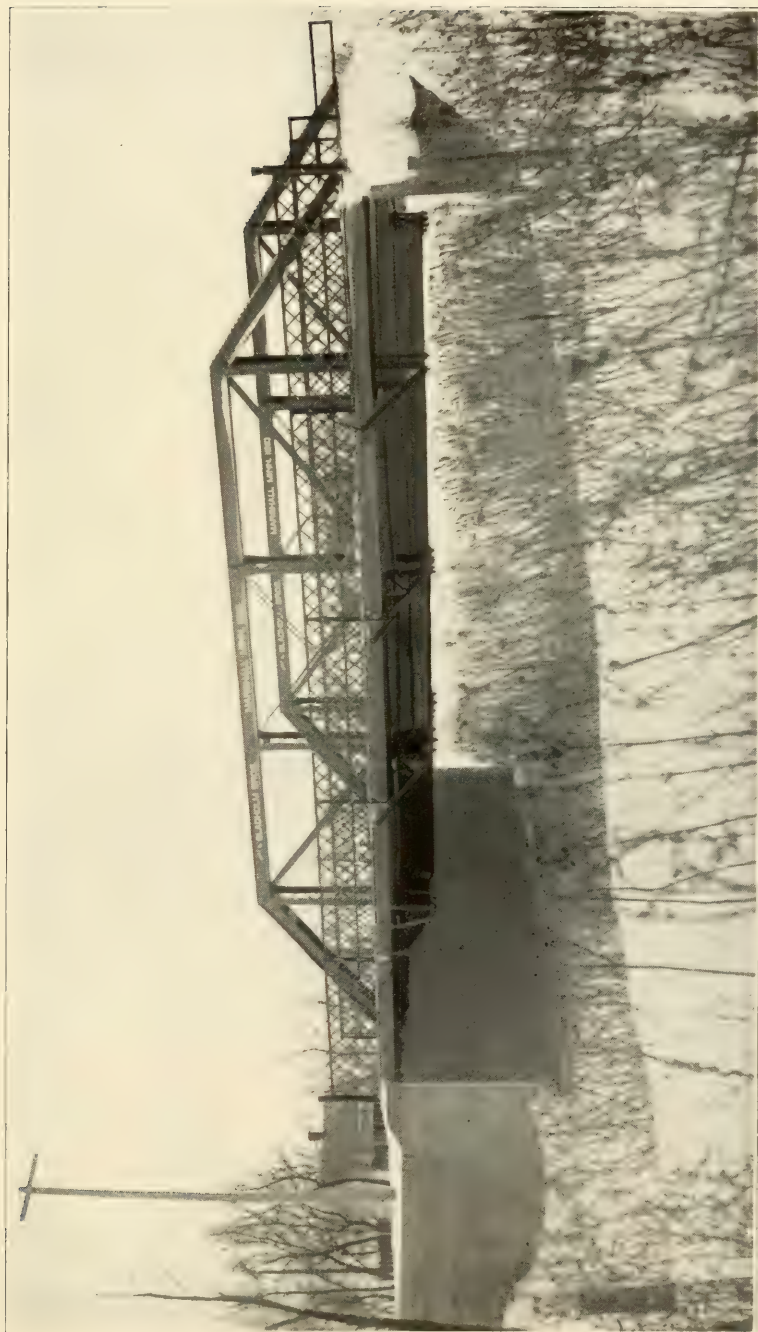
For two years, 1903 to 1905, Mr. Bladholm was state boiler inspector, with headquarters at Marshall. He is a member of the Masonic and Modern Woodmen lodges.

The marriage of our subject to Anna Phereson occurred in Marshall July 15, 1897. Mrs. Bladholm was born in Sweden and came to the United States when eleven years of age with her parents. Before her marriage she lived with her parents, John and Mary Phereson, on their farm four miles north of Marshall. Her father is dead; her mother now resides in Marshall. To Mr. and Mrs. Bladholm have been born five children, named Myrtle, Oscar, Albin, Clifford and Evelyn. All the children were born in Marshall.

JOHN BLADHOLM (1891) is one of the proprietors of the Marshall Machine Shops, which is engaged in several enterprises, among others the building of steel and concrete bridges. The institution is the leading one of the kind in Lyon county and Bladholm Brothers, the proprietors, do an enormous business.

John Bladholm is a native of Sweden and was born July 21, 1871. His father, Frans O. Bladholm, still resides in his native land. His mother, Johanna Bladholm, died in Sweden when John was only seven years of age. There are five living children in the family, as follows: Emily, of Paxton, Illinois; Axal, Herman and John, of Marshall; and Agada, of Sweden.

After his mother's death the family was broken up and from the tender age of seven years John Bladholm had his own way to make. He came to America at the age of ten years and made his home with an uncle in Chicago, Peter Thorell, a cabinet maker by trade. When about thirteen years old



BRIDGE OVER THE REDWOOD AT MARSHALL

Sixty-foot Span, Built for the City of Marshall by Bladholm Brothers, Contractors and  
Bridge Builders, Marshall.



he took employment with the Pullman Car Company as messenger boy, was promoted several times, and was in the employ of the company until 1891. Three years after he took employment with the company he began working in the machine shop and learned his trade.

During the last few years of his employment for the Pullman Car Company Mr. Bladholm and his brothers, Axal and Herman, and Alfred Stone conducted a little experimental machine shop, working in it during the evenings and making designs, engines, etc. They collected a good deal of machinery, and in 1891 they decided to leave the Pullman Company and set up in business for themselves. They located in Marshall that year and established a machine shop, the beginning of the present immense business of Bladholm Brothers. Five years after its founding the other partners sold to Axal Bladholm, and our subject returned to Chicago and for the next six years was again an employe of the Pullman Car Company, during the latter part of the time being in charge of the machine repair and blacksmith shops. He returned to Marshall in 1902 and rebought an interest in the machine shop, which in the meantime had been conducted by Axal Bladholm, and the firm of Bladholm Brothers was formed.

In 1903 the brothers added to the shop a steel and concrete bridge building department and installed heavy machinery for that purpose. They do heavy forging and machinery work and manufacture a boiler feed pump of their own design. They have a well equipped shop for the kind of work they do and both brothers are first-class workmen. They construct from twelve to seventeen bridges a year, among others they have put in being two over the Redwood river in Marshall, one at Minneota over the Yellow Medicine river, one over Three-Mile creek between Marshall and Ghent, and one in Yellow Medicine county over the river of the same name. Bladholm Brothers keep on hand a stock of structural steel for bridge work. They also handle the Glyco babbit metal, being agents for this territory. Another important device they have recently begun to manufacture is a boiler safety plug.

Mr. Bladholm was married in Marshall June 3, 1892, to Sigrid Johnson, who was also born in Sweden and who came to Amer-

ica at the age of sixteen years. To Mr. and Mrs. Bladholm have been born four children, of whom the following three are living: Oscar, Arthur and Grace. One child, Albert, died June 27, 1906.

PATRICK J. McGUIGAN (1906), of Marshall, was born in Dubuque, Iowa, March 18, 1874, and when a baby of eleven months his family moved to Farley, Iowa, where Patrick grew to manhood. The farm on which the boy spent his youth was taken as a homestead by his grandfather, Laurence McGuigan, who located in that country in 1846, and the old stone house built by the grandfather is still standing on the place.

At the age of twenty-one Patrick left the old home and went to Sioux City, Iowa, and there learned the plumbing trade. He remained there four years and then located in Chicago and worked at his trade six years. It was in 1906 that our subject came to Lyon county. He made his residence in Russell four years, working at his trade the greater part of the year and running a traction engine in the falls. In 1910 he moved to Marshall and entered the employ of Adams & Son, plumbers. He was with that firm until January, 1912, when Mr. McGuigan opened a shop of his own, and he has since been doing plumbing and heating.

Patrick J. McGuigan is a son of Laurence and Grace (Bradley) McGuigan, natives of Londerry, Ireland. Patrick is the only child living, and his parents are deceased.

WALLACE W. CLARK (1910) is a comparatively new arrival to Lyon county. For the past two years he has farmed the southeast quarter of section 34, Stanley township, and engages quite extensively in the raising of horses, cattle and hogs.

Mr. Clark was born in Calhoun county, Michigan, October 17, 1877. His father, George A. Clark, was born in 1846 and died in 1893; his mother, Juliette (Jennings) Clark, lives at Bolivar, Missouri. When our subject was a child the family moved to Missouri, and there young Clark grew up. He attended school until sixteen years of age. Then he worked on his father's farm two years, on farms in Kansas three years, at the same occupation in Iowa three years,

and then for a number of years was employed as a coachman in Webster City, Iowa. In 1910 he rented the Stanley township farm which he has since conducted.

Alma Segar became the wife of Mr. Clark in 1903. Her father, Benjamin E. Segar, died February 19, 1912; her mother, Maria Segar, lives in Blairsburg, Iowa. Six children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Clark. Their names and dates of births are: Gladys, born November 20, 1904; Bernice, born December 22, 1905; Robert, born July 1, 1907; Francis, born October 16, 1908; Hazel, born April 25, 1910; Edman, born July 11, 1911. The family are members of the Methodist church.

HENRY A. TEUFEL (1885) is a clerk in the hardware store of J. H. Carlaw at Balaton. He is a native of Lyon county and was born in Lyons township August 5, 1885. The parents of our subject are F. W. and Bertha Teufel, natives of Germany who came to America in the seventies. In the early eighties they moved to Lyons township, where they still reside. They are the parents of nine children, as follows: Henry A., Ernest, Lena, Minnie, Mary, Gustav, Louise, Erna and Eddie.

Henry Teufel grew to manhood on his father's farm in Lyon's township and attended the country schools. In 1910 he engaged in farming, but in February of the following year he entered the employ of J. H. Carlaw at Balaton as clerk. He has practically had charge of the hardware store since that date.

IRA W. HENDRICKSON (1911) is a new arrival to Lyon county. He farms 240 acres of land on section 3, Eidsvold township, and engages in breeding and feeding Duroc-Jersey hogs quite extensively, having on hand about 100 head of thoroughbred animals.

Washington county, Iowa, is the birthplace of Mr. Hendrickson and July 23, 1878, was the date of his birth. He attended the district schools of his native county and until he was twenty-two years of age lived on his father's farm. Then he started in business for himself, farmed one year in his native county, and came

North, to Yellow Medicine county. He farmed rented land in Norman township of that county nine years and in the fall of 1911 rented his present place from his father-in-law. During his residence in Yellow Medicine county Mr. Hendrickson served as a justice of the peace.

Mr. Hendrickson was married in Marshall November 17, 1909, to Alma Pearson. His wife was born in 1887 on the farm on which she now resides and is a daughter of Swen Pearson, one of the early settlers of Eidsvold township and now a resident of Minnesota.

The parents of Mr. Hendrickson are Austin and Isabelle (Tindall) Hendrickson. They were born in Indianapolis, Indiana, moved to Washington county, Iowa, in the early seventies, and still live on a farm there. There are seven children in the family, named as follows: Thomas, an auctioneer of Columbus Junction, Iowa; Charles and George, of Louisa county, Iowa; Ira W., of this biography; Ione, of Little Rock, Arkansas; Lettie (Mrs. David Owens), of Colorado; Minnie (Mrs. Edgar Todd), of Louisa county, Iowa.

AMOS S. MORGAN (1901), of Lake Marshall township, was born in Orleans county, New York, June 7, 1857. His parents are Courtland and Lois (Colton) Morgan, the former a native of Connecticut and the latter of Massachusetts.

At eight years of age Amos accompanied his parents to Kankakee county, Illinois, where the father purchased land. There our subject received a district school education and later attended the high school of Kankakee. He then assisted his father with the farm work, worked out as a farm hand falls, and was employed in the coal mines of Illinois for some time.

In 1901 Mr. Morgan came to Lyon county and with his brother, James C., and sister, Grace, purchased the northeast quarter of section 30, Lake Marshall township, and he has since made his home there. The subject of this review is a member of the Modern Woodmen lodge and he is a director of school district No. 7. He is unmarried.

WALTER PEARCY (1906) farms 240 acres of land on section 19, Lynd township. He is a native of Benton county, Indiana, and was born February 9, 1877. His parents, John and Carrie (Walls) Percy, were born in Canada and located in Indiana in 1875.

Walter received his schooling in Indiana and was brought up on a farm. At the age of eighteen years he moved to Humboldt county, Iowa, and until his marriage in the fall of 1899 he worked at farm labor. Then he commenced farming for himself and was so engaged in Humboldt county until 1906. That year he moved to Lyon county and rented the farm on which he has ever since lived. He conducts the place in partnership with his brother, William Percy. They raise Aberdeen Angus cattle and Chester White hogs. Mr. Percy has stock in the Farmers Elevator Company of Lynd.

The marriage of Mr. Percy to Alma Plantz occurred in Humboldt county, Iowa, August 30, 1899. His wife was born in the county in which she was married on September 16, 1880, and is a daughter of Jacob and Sarah (Sands) Plantz. Her father is a native of Michigan, her mother of Illinois. Two children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Percy: Fern, born July 17, 1900, and Helen, born January 20, 1905.

SORN A. ANDERSON (1910) has been farming in Island Lake township since 1910, in which year he moved there from South Dakota and bought the northeast quarter and the north half of the southeast quarter of section 1. He is successfully farming the 240 acres and is devoting some time to stock raising.

Our subject's parents were natives of Norway. Hans and Ronoge (Hagen) Anderson came from Norway when quite young and were married in this country. The father was a shoemaker by trade and followed that occupation many years in Mankato, Minnesota. Sorn was born in that city July 9, 1876, and was brought up there and attended school until the age of fifteen years. The family then moved to Kossuth county, Iowa, where the father

rented land and became a farmer and later bought eighty acres.

Sorn was at home with his parents until 1900; then he went to Brown county, South Dakota, bought a half section of land, and commenced farming for himself. He later sold 160 acres and then farmed his remaining quarter until 1910, in which year he sold out and came to Lyon county. He purchased the land where he now resides and has made a well-improved property out of it.

The ceremony which united Sorn Anderson and Hannah Quist in the holy bonds of matrimony was performed in Nicollet county, Minnesota, February 12, 1903. To this union three children were born, Olive, Victor and Throdore. Mrs. Anderson was born in Nicollet county April 3, 1876, and is a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Nels Quist.

REV. J. H. SLANEY (1910), pastor of the First Presbyterian Church of Cottonwood since 1910, was born in Kenilworth, Warwickshire, England, May 2, 1856. His parents, Robert Emery and Sarah Ann (Wayman) Slaney, are deceased. The early education of our subject was obtained in the common schools of the district, and at the early age of fourteen he was sent to the Congregational college at Sheffield, England, from which the young student was graduated in 1882.

Serving five years as a lay minister in England and with a good education and a season of practical experience for assets, young Slaney came to America and settled in Brooklyn, New York, where he served in the capacity of city missionary for the next four years. In 1891 he accepted a call to the First Congregational Church of Morton, Illinois, where he was ordained and filled the pulpit two years. The Congregational Home Missionary Board persuaded him to again take up missionary work, and Rev. Slaney again entered that field, which received most of his attention until 1904. During that time he spent another year in Brooklyn and returned to England for a stay of a year and a half.

Rev. Slaney had by this time decided to devote himself to ministerial work, and in 1903 took charge of the church at Fort Madison, Iowa, where he served as pastor

and from which place he also supplied several of the surrounding churches until 1906. That year he moved to Minneapolis and under the Minneapolis Presbytery had charge of the churches at Waverly and Eden Prairie. In October, 1910, he moved to Cottonwood and has since been pastor of the Presbyterian church.

Rev. Slaney's marriage to Jennie Coulton occurred in England March 2, 1881. Mrs. Slaney was born in England July 14, 1854. To this union one child has been born, Alfred Ploughton, on October 13, 1896.

AUGUST C. PRECHEL (1904) rents the southeast quarter of section 10, Lucas township, farms very successfully 240 acres, and engages in the raising of grade cattle and hogs for marketing.

Christ and Bertha Prechel, parents of our subject, both now living in Posen township, Yellow Medicine county, were born in Germany and came to this country and located in Blue Earth county, Minnesota, in 1868, where they resided until 1900, moving to their present home that year. They had fifteen children, twelve of whom are living, as follows: Augusta (Mrs. Charles Meyer), of Blue Earth county; Paulina (Mrs. Herman Preuss), of Yellow Medicine county; Minnie (Mrs. Alfred Radke), of Crookston; Henry, of St. Paul; August C., of this review; and Fred, Rudolph, Ernest, Edward, Bertha, George and Freida, all of Posen township.

August Prechel was born in Blue Earth county, Minnesota, June 4, 1883. He received his education in the common schools and resided in his native county until seventeen years of age. During the last two years of his residence in Blue Earth county he worked for his father on the farm and for a neighbor, and after the family moved to Yellow Medicine county in 1900 August continued to live with his parents the next two years. At the end of that time young Prechel started out for himself and after working out two years he came to Lyon county and continued his work in Lucas township eighteen months, after which he rented the Eliason farm and conducted it five years. Mr. Prechel then moved to the farm he now runs and where he has since resided.

The subject of this sketch was married October 19, 1906, at Marshall to Constance Twedt, a native of Norway, born February 24, 1889. They are the parents of two children: Arvied, born February 4, 1908, and Esther, born November 19, 1909. Mr. and Mrs. Prechel are members of the English Lutheran church of Cottonwood.

LUCIEN PILOTTE (1899) owns and farms the southeast quarter of section 26, Westerheim township, and is rated among the substantial men of his precinct. He has a finely improved farm and is a successful stock raiser, making a specialty of Percheron and Norman horses, Poland China hogs and Shorthorn cattle.

Jacob and Restitude (Proulx) Pilotte were the parents of our subject. The father was born in France, the mother in Quebec. They located in Kankakee county, Illinois, in 1843 and had residence there until their deaths. The father died in 1880, the mother in 1886.

To these parents, in Kankakee county, Illinois, on June 20, 1851, Lucien Pilotte was born. He was given a good education, a good start in the battle of life. Until he was thirteen years of age he was a student in the common schools of Kankakee county and Bourbonnais College; for two years he attended the public schools of Iroquois county; for three years he was a student at Notre Dame Academy, of Notre Dame, Indiana, taking a commercial course.

After securing his education young Pilotte engaged in farming with his father in Illinois until he reached his majority. Then he purchased an eighty-acre farm in Kankakee county (which was later increased to a quarter section), was married, and started in life for himself. After eight years on the farm Mr. Pilotte moved to the city of Kankakee. He served six months on the police force and for six and one-half years he clerked in a hardware store. He returned to the farm, conducted it one year, and then sold and moved to Salix, Woodbury county, Iowa.

Near that village Mr. Pilotte bought a quarter section farm, which he conducted six years. During his residence there his place was struck by one of the most de-

structive cyclones that ever visited Iowa. Five children of one family were killed and great damage was done. Mr. Pilotte lost most of his buildings. In the spring of 1899 the subject of this review and his family came to Lyon county and located on the farm they now own—land which had been purchased the fall before. On that place they have since lived. The family are members of the Catholic church of Ghent.

Mr. Pilotte has held a number of offices of trust. He was treasurer of the city of Kankakee one year, and for three years he was a highway commissioner of Kankakee county. He was clerk of his school district in Iowa six years, and for three years he was clerk of school district No. 44, Lyon county.

Louise Savoie became the wife of Mr. Pilotte at Sainte Marie, Illinois, October 21, 1872. She was born in Kankakee county August 15, 1853, the daughter of John and Rosalie (Beland) Savoie. Her parents were born in Quebec. Her mother died in 1906; her father, who is now eighty-four years of age, resides with his daughter.

The children of Mr. and Mrs. Pilotte are as follows: Eveline (Mrs. Joseph Lericier), of Sloan, Iowa, born November 9, 1875; Herman, of Fairview township, born March 29, 1878; Georgiana (Mrs. Levi Prairie), of Westerheim township, born July 25, 1879; Joseph, of Sodus township, born July 11, 1881; Alexina, born September 9, 1889; Paul, born April 22, 1894. The two last named reside at home.

ANTON PETERSON (1895), the newly elected constable of Shelburne township, is one of the successful farmers of the community. He lives on the southwest quarter of section 12, Shelburne township, which he has rented since December, 1911. Mr. Peterson was elected constable of the township in March, 1912.

Our subject was born in Racine, Wisconsin, April 22, 1882, and in 1895 he moved with his parents to Lyon county, the family first locating in Coon Creek township. There they remained only one year, the father buying the northwest quarter of section 10, Shelburne. Anton resided on the

home farm until recently, when he rented the quarter where he is now living.

Anton's parents are Peter Peterson and Christina (Nelson) Peterson, both natives of Denmark, now living on the home farm on section 10. There were four children born to them, all of whom are living: Hans, of Racine, Wisconsin; Lawrence, at home; Anton and Magdelina (Mrs. John De Kiere), of Marshall.

On December 2, 1911, Anton was married to Elsie Peske, a native of Germany who came to the United States with her parents when thirteen years of age. Her father is Albert Peske, now living in Shelburne township.

WILLIAM DENNIS CARNINE (1906) is a young Lyon county farmer who has resided here for the past six years. He is a native of Switzerland county, Indiana, and was born April 29, 1879. He is the son of Calvin and Sarah (Chambers) Carnine. His father died when William was fifteen years of age.

Mr. Carnine attended country school until sixteen years of age. He is a member of the German Evangelical church of Clifton township and is a member of the Modern Woodmen lodge at Dudley, Minnesota. He engages extensively in stock raising, making a specialty of Shorthorn cattle and Duroc-Jersey hogs.

At Fonda, Iowa, on September 27, 1904, Mr. Carnine was united in marriage to Lydia M. Cross, a daughter of August and Marguerite Cross, of Marshall. To this union has been born one child, Leona, born May 14, 1905, at Fonda, Iowa.

Mr. Carnine rents the northeast quarter of section 12, Lake Marshall township, and is a successful farmer and stock raiser.

THOMAS H. MURPHY (1906) is the proprietor of the Riverside Hotel at Russell. He is a native of the Gopher State, and was born in Wabasha county August 27, 1856. His parents were John and Elizabeth Murphy, natives of Ireland who came to the United States when young. They settled in Wabasha county in the early sixties and moved to Redwood county in 1881, where the father homesteaded land in Westline township.

The father died there; the mother resides in Cass county, Minnesota. They were the parents of the following children: Thomas and William, of Russell; Martha O'Connell, of Mitchell, South Dakota. In early days, before schools were organized, the father had a school in his house for two years in Wabasha county.

In 1872 our subject moved to Redwood county and resided on his father's farm until 1901. After his father's death he purchased the place, in 1896. In 1901 he moved to Cass county, where he purchased a farm and operated it five years. He still owns that place.

In 1906 Mr. Murphy came to Lyon county and located on a farm in Coon Creek township, where he resided until the spring of 1911. Then he moved to Russell and has since had charge of the Riverside Hotel. He is a member of the Catholic church and of the Modern Woodmen lodge. While a resident of Redwood county Mr. Murphy was chairman of the Township Board of Supervisors. They were in need of another school in his district and through his efforts it was obtained and he was a member of its board for several years.

Mr. Murphy was married in Vernon county, Wisconsin, February 27, 1889, to Annie O'Connell, a native of that county. Mr. and Mrs. Murphy are the parents of ten living children: John, William, Mary, Agnes, Bernard, Thomas, Leo, James, Michael and Clement. Three children are deceased.

NELS POLSON (1910) is a farmer of Custer township who rents the northwest quarter of section 34. In addition to general farming, he raises Shorthorn cattle and Duroc-Jersey swine.

Mr. Polson was born in Sweden May 16, 1865, and is a son of Per and Christine (Larson) Polson, both of whom are deceased. Our subject attended the common school in Sweden until fifteen years of age and then worked on his father's farm two years. About six months were spent by the lad in learning the carpenter's trade, but he discontinued that occupation to return to farm labor, which occupied his time until he reached the age of twenty-one years.

In the spring of 1887 Mr. Polson came to

America and located in Minneapolis, working on a farm in the vicinity two years and then finding employment as a teamster in the city and working there three years. Mr. Polson then found a good situation with the Wisconsin Central Railroad and for sixteen years was in the service of that company as car inspector, with headquarters in Minneapolis. Desiring to return to country life, Mr. Polson in the spring of 1908 moved to Murray county, rented land, and farmed two years; then he moved to Lyon county and rented the farm he now operates.

Our subject was wedded to Marie Anderson in Minneapolis January 18, 1890. To this union the following children have been born: Olga, born April 23, 1895; Hydey, born June 9, 1897; Henning, born April 14, 1900; Donald, born March 28, 1906; and Kenneth, born July 31, 1908. Mr. Polson is a native of Sweden and was born July 20, 1868.

HERMAN F. WEIDAUER (1906) is one of Grandview township's farmers. He was born in Germany June 7, 1884, and is a son of Frederick and Selma (Los) Weidauer. The parents are both living in Germany.

The subject of this sketch received his early education in the Fatherland, and he attended school until fourteen years of age. He then had employment in a weaving factory two years before coming to America in the spring of 1901. That year Herman and his brother Ernest located in Calhoun county, Iowa, where the former worked out at farm labor until 1906.

It was in January of the latter year that Mr. Weidauer came to Lyon county and engaged in farming in Lake Marshall township. After one year's residence there he rented land and farmed in Fairview township three years, from there moving to his present farm, the south half of the southwest quarter of section 13, Grandview township. He also conducts the A. L. Rivard 240-acre farm in the same township. Mr. Weidauer raises considerable stock.

The marriage of our subject to Emma Cross occurred in 1906, at Marshall. Mrs. Weidauer is a native of Illinois and was born May 9, 1888, a daughter of August and Margaret (Stauter) Cross. To this union three children were born: Raymond, born

March 30, 1907; Le Roy, born July 8, 1909; and Iola, born September 13, 1911. Mrs. Weidauer's parents are living and reside at Marshall.

Our subject is a member of the German Evangelical church of Marshall and is allied with the fraternal order of Modern Woodmen.

FRED CLAUSEN (1906) is a young farmer residing near Garvin who has lived in Lyon county for the past six years. He is a native of Germany and was born at Alsan September 6, 1884, a son of Thomas and Katherine Clausen. The former died in 1909; the latter resides with her son near Garvin.

Fred Clausen attended school in Germany until fourteen years of age and then worked out as a farm hand seven years. In 1906 he came to America and located at Russell, where he worked a year; then he worked four years on farms near Balaton. In the spring of 1911 he rented the northeast quarter of section 12, Coon Creek township, which he operated until the fall of that year, when he moved to the farm in Custer township.

Mr. Clausen has two brothers and two sisters living, as follows: Chris and Mrs. Hans Mork, of Russell; Tom and Mrs. Andrew Nelson, of Balaton.

WILLIAM VAN SADELHOFF (1905) is the manager of the Van Dusen elevator at Amiret. He is a native Hollander and was born November 3, 1882, the son of Theodore and Mary (Lucassen) Van Sadelhoff. The former is deceased and the latter resides in Holland. William is the only one of the family in America. Mr. Van Sadelhoff came to the United States when twenty-two years of age and settled in Martin county, South Dakota, where he resided one year. In 1905 he moved to Ghent, where he engaged one year in the livery business and one year as grain buyer for the Western Elevator Company. He then located in Marshall and worked in the Leland elevator one year. In 1908 he moved to Amiret and has since been engaged as manager of the Van Dusen Elevator Company's house at that place. Mr.

Van Sadelhoff holds membership in the Catholic church and the M. W. A. lodge.

Mr. Van Sadelhoff was married at Ghent June 9, 1909, to Adelle Paradis, a native of Lyon county and a daughter of Teles Paradis, an early settler of the county.

ERNEST DE KEYSER (1909) is the proprietor of a saloon in the village of Ghent, where he has resided the past three years. He was born in Belgium July 22, 1878, and came to the United States in 1904, located in South Bend, Indiana, and later went to Mishawaka, where he worked four years for the Ball Band Rubber Company. In 1909 Mr. De Keyser moved to Ghent and purchased the Matt Van Der Hegen saloon, which he has since conducted. Mr. De Keyser's parents are both dead. He has two brothers and four sisters who reside in Belgium, namely: Fulma, Gustaaf, Alfred, Irma, Laura and Alice.

Ernest De Keyser was married in Mishawaka on April 28, 1905, to Elizabeth Van Hove, a native of Belgium who came to the United States in 1902.

ERICK O. ERICKSON (1911) has, since August 27, 1911, been proprietor of the hotel and livery business at Florence formerly owned by Andrew Sanden. Mr. Erickson has realized the necessity of making the automobile a part of the modern livery equipment. He has been enjoying a liberal patronage in both lines of his new enterprise. In addition to this he has other interests requiring his attention. Mr. Erickson owns a 280-acre farm near Tyler and a share in the old parental farm in Union county, South Dakota. He is also a shareholder in the Tyler Lumber Company, of Tyler, Minnesota.

Our subject was born in Sweden November 18, 1877, being a son of Olof and Christine (Neilson) Erickson. The former is deceased and the mother resides at Tyler, Minnesota. The Ericksons came to this country when Erick was twenty months old and settled in Union county, South Dakota, where Erick grew up and where he attended school until seventeen years of age. He then worked on the home farm for the next five years. At that time he moved to Lin-

coln county, locating on a farm near Tyler in September, 1904, having bought the land the year before. There he farmed until buying the hotel and livery business in Florence and moving to that town. The Norwegian Lutheran church numbers Mr. Erickson among its membership, and he is also a member of the A. O. U. W. lodge.

The marriage of Erick O. Erickson and Margret Nelson occurred in Union county, South Dakota, December 22, 1902. The bride was a native of Norway and was born November 22, 1877. Mr. and Mrs. Erickson are the parents of three children. They are Oscar, born March 31, 1904; Clara, born December 14, 1905; and Ernest, born January 10, 1909.

HENRY COMO (1906), of Vallery township, is a son of Joseph and Delvina (Budreau) Como. His father was born in Canada and his mother in Illinois. They moved to Kansas and engaged in farming near Clyde. They came to Lyon county in 1906 and are now engaged in farming near Green Valley.

To these parents, in Clyde, Kansas, Henry Como was born September 7, 1888. There he secured his education and was brought up on a farm. He came with the family to Lyon county in 1906 and lived on the farm with his father until the spring of the present year. Then he was married and engaged in farming for himself, renting the southwest quarter of section 28, Vallery township. He is a member of the Catholic church.

Florence Paradis, who was born in Lyon county January 3, 1892, was married to Mr. Como at Marshall on April 16, 1912. She is a daughter of Lawrence and Josephine (Cheaubeneau) Paradis, of Lucas township.

FRANCIS J. TIEMESSEN (1898), one of the younger farmers of Nordland township, has charge of the southeast quarter of section 19. He was born in Loo, Holland, November 1, 1880, a son of John W. and Johanna (Staring) Tiemessen.

Francis secured a common school education in his native land and at the age of seventeen years, in 1898, he came to Amer-

ica and to Lyon county. For several years he worked for farmers in the vicinity of Ghent; in 1906 he was married and commenced farming for himself. For three years he farmed on section 10 and moved to his present location in 1909, buying the farm at that time. He has made a success of his operations.

Mr. Tiemessen was married in Minneota March 7, 1905, to Johanna Thompson, a native of Whitewater, Wisconsin, and a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Thompson. Her parents were born in Norway and now reside in Minneota. Mr. and Mrs. Tiemessen have five children, Bernice J., Irene M., Agnes C., Catherine L. and Lillian T. Mr. Tiemessen is a member of the Catholic church of Minneota.

JOSEPH WALQUIST (1911) is a native of Sweden and has been a resident of the United States about seven years. Since moving to Tracy in 1911 he has been in the employ of Knut Nylin, merchant tailor.

Joseph Walquist was born May 10, 1888. His father, John A. Walquist, and his mother, Josephine A. (Saxburg) Walquist, are both living in Wargarda, Sweden. Joseph learned his trade in Sweden and worked there for some time as a journeyman. In 1905 he came to this country and was employed two years on a farm near New London, Minnesota. Finding employment in Minneapolis, he worked at his trade four years, moving from there to Des Moines, Iowa, and in 1911 locating in Tracy. Mr. Walquist is a member of the K. P. lodge.

Joseph Walquist's father, John A. Walquist, is a sergeant in the Swedish army. Besides Joseph there are four other children in the family, Ellen, Iver, Arved and Fritof.

WILLIAM SCHOEL (1901) is a farmer of Lyons township, a native of Muscatine county, Iowa, and a son of Chris and Florence (Markley) Schoel, the former a native of Germany and the latter of Ohio. William was born January 18, 1883, and received his schooling and grew to manhood at the fam-

ily home in Iowa. When nineteen years of age he accompanied his parents to Lyon county and resided with them until 1908, when he moved to the farm he now operates, the northeast quarter of section 8, Lyons township. He has been engaged in threshing five years in connection with his farm labors.

Our subject's uncle, William C. Schoel, resides with him. The latter is a native German and was born in 1851. He came to the United States in 1871 and located at Rock Island, Illinois, where he remained a short time. Then he went to Scott county, Iowa, where he worked at farm labor until coming to Lyon county in 1901.

FRANK E. FULLER (1906), of Rock Lake township, is a recent addition to the farming population of Lyon county. He is a son of William and Clara (McNeil) Fuller, residents of Sodus township. His father was born in Indiana, his mother in Ohio. There are two other children in the family, Floy, a school teacher of Balaton, and Edith, of the same village.

Frank Fuller was born in Benton county, Indiana, February 9, 1887, and in that county he resided until nineteen years of age. He attended school until fifteen years old and thereafter worked on his father's farm. He came with the family to Lyon county in 1906 and until his marriage six years later worked for his father. Then he rented the northeast quarter of section 20, Rock Lake township, and has since been engaged in farming for himself.

The date of Mr. Fuller's marriage was January 3, 1912, and occurred at Watseka, Illinois. His bride, Margaret Collins, was born at Wellington, Illinois, July 6, 1887.

ALBERT E. PETERSON (1910), of Sodus township, was born in Dunn county, Wisconsin, January 13, 1877, a son of Adolph and Gunild (Christopher) Peterson, the former a native of Norway and the latter of Wisconsin. Albert resided at home until twenty-six years of age, when he married and purchased a quarter section of land near Cedar Falls, Wisconsin, where he farmed until 1909.

That year he sold his Wisconsin prop-

erty, came to Lyon county, and purchased the northwest quarter of section 30, Sodus township, in September of that year. In February, 1910, he moved here and took up his residence on the place, which is a fine farm. Mr. Peterson is chairman of the school board of district No. 51.

Mr. Peterson was married in Wisconsin September 24, 1902, to Jennie E. Whinnery, a native of Dunn county. She was born June 2, 1881, and is a daughter of William and Matilda (Smith) Whinnery, the former a native of Iowa and the latter of Pennsylvania. Mr. and Mrs. Peterson are the parents of the following children: Jessie A., born November 29, 1903; Lois L., born September 2, 1907; Edna L., born May 27, 1911.

CHRIS NELSON (1908), proprietor of the Garvin meat market, was born in Denmark December 29, 1877. In the old country he worked at the brick mason's and butcher's trades and in 1901 came to America. He settled in Redwood county and for two or three years worked as a farm laborer and in a livery stable at Milroy.

Mr. Nelson went to Lake Shetek in 1905 and for the next three years worked in a hotel. He located in Garvin in 1908 and for several years worked as a mason and butcher. He bought the meat market in March, 1911. Mr. Nelson is a member of the Norwegian Lutheran church and the M. W. A. lodge.

Anders and Agnes Marie Nelson, the parents of Chris Nelson, reside in Denmark. Chris is the only one in America of a family of nine children. The other children are Inger, Nels C., Agnes, Maries, Edgar, Christian, Karen and Senna.

Mr. Nelson was married at Tracy September 13, 1911, to Emma M. Nelson. She was born in Lyon county and is the daughter of one of the early settlers, Thomas Nelson, who lives near Garvin.

GROVER C. WHITLATCH (1910) is a farmer of Monroe township, renting 170 acres, the northeast quarter of section 2.

Mr. Whitlatch was born in Marion county, Iowa, March 30, 1885, and lived in that county until 1910. He was educated in the country schools of his district and was

brought up on the home farm. After he had reached young manhood he divided his time between the home farm and helping neighbors. For two years he had charge of his father's place.

In 1910 Mr. Whitlatch came to Lyon county and has since farmed for himself on rented land. He moved to the place he now farms in the spring of 1912. He is a member of the I. O. O. F. lodge of Tracy.

The marriage of Mr. Whitlatch and Elma Phelps took place in Marshall January 21, 1911. To this union one child has been born, Maria Elizabeth, the date of her birth being February 22, 1912. Mrs. Whitlatch was born in Marion county, Iowa, January 20, 1890.

Mr. Whitlatch's parents live in Marion county, Iowa. His father, R. J. Whitlatch, was born in that county, and his mother, Emma (Nickell) Whitlatch, was born in Monroe county, Iowa.

HARRY E. CARSTENS (1893) is the junior member of the firm of E. H. Carstens & Son, general merchants of Taunton. He is a native of Tyler, Minnesota, and was born March 6, 1888. When five years of age, Henry accompanied his parents to Taunton, where he attended school, later entering his father's store as clerk. In 1908 he was admitted as a partner, the firm name being changed to E. H. Carstens & Son. He is a member of the Taunton Fire Department.

The parents of our subject are E. H. and Minnie (Lopine) Carstens, both of whom are living. They are the parents of the following named seven children: Mary (Mrs. N. A. Rudning), of Bellingham, Minnesota; Paul and Ida (Mrs. H. J. Prelwitz, of Bellingham; William F., of Altamont, South Dakota; Henry, of Little Falls, Washington; Mabel, a school teacher.









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